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Agenda item 20

Sustainable development

Report of the Second Committee*

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I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled:

"Sustainable development:

"(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;

"(b) Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

"(c) Disaster risk reduction;

"(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind;

"(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

"(f) Convention on Biological Diversity;

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 12 parts, under the symbols A/73/538, A/73/538/Add.1, A/73/538/Add.2, A/73/538/Add.3, A/73/538/Add.4, A/73/538/Add.5, A/73/538/Add.6, A/73/538/Add.7, A/73/538/Add.8, A/73/538/Add.9, A/73/538/Add.10 and A/73/538/Add.11.

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"(g) Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme;

"(h) Harmony with Nature;

"(i) Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;

"(j) Combating sand and dust storms;

"(k) The role of the international community in the prevention of the radiation threat in Central Asia"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 12th to 14th meetings, on 15 and 16 October 2018. Action on the item was taken at the 23rd to 28th meetings, on 8, 21, 28 and 30 November and 3 December 2018. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1] Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, on 8 to 10 October.[2] An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item is given in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Item 20
Sustainable development

Report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system (A/73/81-E/2018/59)

Report of the Secretary-General on Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Development (A/73/258)

Report of the Secretary-General on the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, 2017 (A/73/283)

Report of the Secretary-General on the oil slick on Lebanese shores (A/73/302)

Letter dated 6 July 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Final Declaration of the High-level International Conference on the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028 (A/73/166)

Letter dated 4 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the forty-second annual meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77, held in New York on 27 September 2018 (A/73/417)

Letter dated 22 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Malawi to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, held in New York on 26 September 2018 (A/73/455)

[1] A/C.2/73/SR.12, A/C.2/73/SR.13, A/C.2/73/SR.14, A/C.2/73/SR.23, A/C.2/73/SR.24, A/C.2/73/SR.25, A/C.2/73/SR.26, A/C.2/73/SR.27 and A/C.2/73/SR.28.

[2] See A/C.2/73/SR.2, A/C.2/73/SR.3, A/C.2/73/SR.4, A/C.2/73/SR.5 and A/C.2/73/SR.6.

Item 20 (a)
Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (A/73/204)

Item 20 (b)
Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Report of the Secretary-General on the Sustainable Development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations (A/73/225)

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/73/226)

Report of the Secretary-General on the assessment resulting from the evolving mandates of the small island developing States units of the Secretariat (A/73/345)

Letter dated 4 September 2018 from the Permanent Mission of Tonga to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the report of the Pacific preparatory meeting for the Midterm Review of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, held in Nuku'alofa from 19 to 21 June 2018 (A/73/382)

Item 20 (c)
Disaster risk reduction

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 (A/73/268)

Item 20 (d)
Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity, on the implementation of United Nations environmental conventions (A/73/255)

Item 20 (e)
Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on

Biological Diversity, on the implementation of United Nations environmental conventions (A/73/255)

Item 20 (f)
Convention on Biological Diversity

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity, on the implementation of United Nations environmental conventions (A/73/255)

Item 20 (g)
Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme on its third session (Nairobi, 4–6 December 2017) (A/73/25)

Item 20 (h)
Harmony with Nature

Report of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature (A/73/221)

Item 20 (i)
Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Report of the Secretary-General on ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (A/73/267)

Item 20 (j)
Combating sand and dust storms

Report of the Secretary-General on combating sand and dust storms (A/73/306)

Item 20 (k)
The role of the international community in the prevention of the radiation threat in Central Asia

No documents were submitted under this sub-item

4. At its 12th meeting, on 15 October, the Committee heard introductory statements by the Officer-in-Charge of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under item 20 and sub-items (a), (b), (h) and (i)); the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction (under sub-item 20 (c)); the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (under sub-item 20 (f)); the Director ad interim of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (under sub-items 20 (g) and 20 (j)); the Chief of the New York Office of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (under item 20); the Regional Adviser at the Regional Bureau for Arab States of the United Nations Development Programme (also under item 20); and the Deputy Special Representative of the World Tourism Organization Liaison Office to the United Nations (also under item 20). The Committee also heard a recorded statement by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (under sub-item 20 (e)).

5. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of the United States of America made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee.[3]

6. At the 27th meeting, on 3 December, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions adopted by the Committee.[4]

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.13

7. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Oil slick on Lebanese shores" (A/C.2/73/L.13).

8. At its 25th meeting, on 28 November, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.13 by a recorded vote of 161 to 7, with 8 abstentions (see para. 20, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

[3] See A/C.2/73/SR.23.

[4] See A/C.2/73/SR.27.

Against:

Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Guatemala, Honduras, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Vanuatu.

10. Also at the 25th meeting, before the vote, the representative of Israel made a statement in explanation of vote.

11. At the same meeting, after the vote, the representative of Lebanon made a statement.

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.35/Rev.1

12. At the 24th meeting, on 21 November, the representative of Israel, on behalf of Albania, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Georgia, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, India, Israel, Kenya, Kiribati, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Entrepreneurship for sustainable development" (A/C.2/73/L.35/Rev.1) and orally corrected preambular paragraph 11.[5]

13. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

14. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee announced that, since the submission of the draft resolution, the following had joined as co-sponsors: Andorra, Angola, Argentina, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, the Central African Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United Republic of Tanzania. Subsequently, Antigua and Barbuda, Botswana, the Congo, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritius, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe and Sierra Leone also joined as co-sponsors of the revised draft resolution, as orally corrected.

15. Also at the 24th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.35/Rev.1, as orally corrected, by a recorded vote of 137 to 29, with 7 abstentions (see para. 20, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:[6]

[5] See A/C.2/73/SR.24.

[6] Subsequently, the Secretariat was informed by the delegation of San Marino that it had intended to vote in favour.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam.

Against:

Algeria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen.

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, Nicaragua, Pakistan, South Africa, Turkey.

16. At the same meeting, statements in explanation of vote before the vote were made by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic and Qatar (on behalf of the Arab States).

17. Also at the same meeting, statements in explanation of vote after the vote were made by the representatives of Ecuador and the United States of America.

18. Also at the 24th meeting, statements after the vote were made by the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union) and Israel.

19. At the same meeting, a statement after the vote was made by the observer for the State of Palestine.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

20. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Oil slick on Lebanese shores

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006, 62/188 of 19 December 2007, 63/211 of 19 December 2008, 64/195 of 21 December 2009, 65/147 of 20 December 2010, 66/192 of 22 December 2011, 67/201 of 21 December 2012, 68/206 of 20 December 2013, 69/212 of 19 December 2014, 70/194 of 22 December 2015, 71/218 of 21 December 2016 and 72/209 of 20 December 2017 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

Reaffirming the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,[1] in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

Emphasizing the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

Taking into account the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2] especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[3]

Noting with great concern the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Jiyah electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline, extended to the Syrian coastline and hindered efforts to achieve sustainable development, as already highlighted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 61/194, 62/188, 63/211, 64/195, 65/147, 66/192, 67/201, 68/206, 69/212, 70/194, 71/218 and 72/209,

Noting that the Secretary-General expressed grave concern at the lack of any acknowledgement on the part of the Government of Israel of its responsibilities vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill,

Recalling that, in paragraph 5 of its resolution 72/209, it reiterated its request to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, and recognizing the conclusion of the Secretary-General that this request of the General Assembly has yet to be implemented,

Acknowledging that the Secretary-General concluded that this oil spill is not covered by any of the international oil spill compensation funds and thus merits

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[1] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5–16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

special consideration, and recognizing that further consideration needs to be given to the option of securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel,

Acknowledging also the conclusions on measuring and quantifying the environmental damage set out in the report of the Secretary-General,[4]

Noting again with appreciation the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the clean-up operations and the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

Acknowledging that the Secretary-General has welcomed the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration trust fund, under its existing mechanism, and expressing concern that to date no contributions have been made to the trust fund,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Reiterates*, for the thirteenth consecutive year, its deep concern about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese Jiyah electric power plant for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health in the country;

4. *Acknowledges* the conclusions in the report of the Secretary-General, in which he stated that studies show that the value of the damage to Lebanon amounted to 856.4 million United States dollars in 2014, and requests the Secretary-General to urge United Nations bodies and agencies and other relevant organizations involved in the initial assessment of the relevant environmental damage to undertake, within existing resources, a further study, building on, inter alia, the initial work of the World Bank presented in the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session,[5] with a view to measuring and quantifying the environmental damage sustained by neighbouring countries;

5. *Reiterates its request* in this regard to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon for the aforementioned damage and to other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment, in particular in the light of the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General that there remains grave concern at the lack of implementation of the relevant provisions of the resolutions of the General Assembly on the subject vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill;

6. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores,

[4] A/73/302.
[5] A/62/343.

and encourages Member States and the above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

7. *Welcomes* the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration trust fund, based on voluntary contributions, to provide assistance and support to the States directly and adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at the Jiyah electric power plant;

8. *Notes* that in his report the Secretary-General urged Member States, international organizations, international and regional financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to intensify their support for Lebanon in this matter, particularly for recovery and rehabilitation activities on the Lebanese coast, reiterates its invitation to States and the international donor community to make voluntary financial contributions to the trust fund, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance in order to ensure that the trust fund has sufficient and adequate resources;

9. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

Draft resolution II
Entrepreneurship for sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 67/202 of 21 December 2012, 69/210 of 19 December 2014 and 71/221 of 21 December 2016,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental and the wish to see the Sustainable Development Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[1] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[3] and reaffirming that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, among other things, seeks to develop and implement holistic disaster risk reduction management at all levels in line with the Sendai Framework,

Recalling also relevant strategies and programmes of action, including the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[4] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[5] the Vienna Declaration and Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked

[1] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[3] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[4] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chaps. I and II.

[5] Resolution 69/15, annex.

Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[6] taking note of Agenda 2063 of the African Union, and recognizing the importance of addressing the diverse needs and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing middle-income countries,

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[7] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[8] and the outcome documents of their review conferences,

Acknowledging that entrepreneurship and innovation are essential for harnessing the economic potential of each nation and the importance of supporting mass entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, which create new momentum for economic growth and job creation and expand opportunities for all, including women and youth,

Recalling relevant agreed conclusions and resolutions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, including the agreed conclusion adopted at its sixty-first session, entitled "Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work",[9] and the agreed conclusion adopted at its sixty-second session, entitled "Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls",[10] stressing that women and girls, particularly in developing countries, are important drivers of entrepreneurship and sustainable development, calling for measures to enable women to leverage science and technology for entrepreneurship and economic empowerment, and recognizing the importance of policies and programmes that eliminate discrimination against women and provide public infrastructure to ensure equal access for women and men entrepreneurs,

Recognizing that multi-stakeholder partnerships and the resources, knowledge and ingenuity of the private sector, civil society, the scientific community, academia, philanthropy and foundations, parliaments, local authorities, volunteers and other stakeholders will be important in order to mobilize and access knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, complement the efforts of Governments and contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits, as well as support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, including developing countries,

Underlining the need to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for achieving sustainable development and to build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and reaffirming that good governance, rule of law, human rights, fundamental freedoms, equal access to fair justice systems and measures to combat corruption and curb illicit financial flows will be integral to those efforts,

Emphasizing the pivotal role of entrepreneurship in achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions, and emphasizing that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires the talents, creativity and entrepreneurial vigour of the entire population,

Welcoming the United Nations youth strategy, launched by the Secretary-General,

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[6] Resolution 69/137, annexes I and II.

[7] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[8] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[9] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 7* (E/2017/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[10] Ibid., *2018, Supplement No. 7* (E/2018/27), chap. I, sect. A.

Recognizing that entrepreneurship drives economic growth by creating jobs, promoting decent work and sustainable agriculture, and fostering innovation,

Recognizing also that entrepreneurship can help to address environmental challenges through the introduction of new climate change mitigation and adaptation technologies and resilience measures, as well as by promoting environmentally sustainable practices and consumption patterns,

Recognizing further the positive contribution entrepreneurship can make in promoting social cohesion, reducing inequalities and expanding opportunities for all, including women, young people, persons with disabilities and the most vulnerable people, and reaching the furthest behind first,

Noting the role entrepreneurship can play in supporting participation in the labour market for persons with disabilities, and that promoting the feasibility of entrepreneurship for persons with disabilities will increase awareness of entrepreneurship as a potential labour market activity, not only for persons with disabilities, but also for self-employment and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and noting that persons with disabilities, including women with disabilities, face disproportionate and intersecting forms of discrimination, including access to financial resources,

Recalling its resolution 71/279 of 6 April 2017 on Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day,

Recognizing the importance of encouraging the formalization, participation and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in international, regional and national markets, including through access for all to capacity-building and financial services, such as affordable microfinance and credit,

Remaining deeply concerned by continued high rates of youth unemployment, particularly in developing countries, which stifle the transformative potential of young people in sustainable development,

Reaffirming its commitment to substantially increase the number of young people and all adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship, and acknowledging the importance of strengthening education systems, including vocational training, in order to develop relevant skills and competences,

Acknowledging that social entrepreneurship plays an important role in achieving the sustainable development challenges by applying innovative market-based solutions to social and environmental problems, while being financially sustainable, and providing job and income opportunities for disadvantaged groups,

Acknowledging also the importance of promoting development-oriented policies that support productive activities, job creation and entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services and the improvement of financial literacy, and in this regard recognizing the role of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization that could contribute to job creation for all,

Recognizing that businesses will play a central role in the transition towards sustainable development and a more resource-efficient economy, including concepts such as the circular economy, by adapting their business models and value chains,

Noting with concern that societal attitudes and negative preconceptions, in particular towards women, including fear of failure, lack of opportunity and insufficient support structures, can undermine efforts to create a culture of entrepreneurship,

Recognizing the importance of quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data for monitoring progress in the implementation of entrepreneurship policies and their direct and indirect contribution to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, and addressing sex-disaggregated data gaps, to ensure that no one is left behind,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[11]

2. *Reiterates* the need to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and in that regard emphasizes the importance of improved regulatory environments and policy initiatives that promote entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, and foster micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and stresses the positive role that entrepreneurship plays in driving job creation, reducing inequalities and expanding opportunities for all, including for women and youth;

3. *Also reiterates* that the persistently low wages earned by women workers impacts their economic empowerment, giving rise to the need to build their economic resilience by helping them access and mobilize adequate financial resources and technologies and to undertake capacity-building to promote women's entrepreneurship and economic empowerment, and, in addition, to empower women through entrepreneurship by increasing their employment and market opportunities through targeted education and training and greater legal protections in the workplace;

4. *Encourages* Governments to take a coordinated and inclusive approach to promoting entrepreneurship involving all stakeholders, while noting initiatives of civil society, academia and the private sector as important entrepreneurship drivers, and to develop policies, taking into account national priorities and circumstances, that address the legal, social and regulatory barriers to equal, effective economic participation, and stresses the need for a comprehensive and holistic approach to entrepreneurship that includes long-term and cross-sectoral strategies;

5. *Acknowledges* that promoting entrepreneurship can stimulate new production processes and technology development, including the building of endogenous capacities enabling climate change mitigation and adaptation and enhancing energy efficiency, and recognizes that such a policy, which could draw on the initiatives presented in the Global Climate Action Agenda, can help Governments to meet their targets for the Paris Agreement on climate change;

6. *Also acknowledges* that the private sector contributes to the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and that partnerships with the private sector play an important role in promoting entrepreneurship, generating employment and investment, increasing revenue potential, developing new technologies and innovative business models and enabling high, sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth while protecting workers' rights;

7. *Further acknowledges* the need for Member States to develop policies and, where appropriate, strengthen national and international policy regulatory frameworks and their coherence, harnessing the potential of science, technology and innovation, closing technology gaps and scaling up capacity-building at all levels to better align private sector incentives with public goals, including incentivizing the private sector to adopt sustainable practices, and foster long-term quality investment, taking into account the importance of responsible business practices and corporate social responsibility, as reflected in the 10 principles of the United Nations Global Compact and in the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the

[11] A/73/258.

United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[12] environmental, social and governance performance standards and greater transparency in supply chains to end forced and child labour;

8. *Recognizes* the vital role of entrepreneurship in the development of regional economic integration, which can be an important catalyst for implementing economic reforms, reducing trade barriers and decreasing trade costs;

9. *Invites* Member States to strengthen the capacity of national financial institutions to reach out to those who have no access to banking, insurance and other financial services, particularly women and women-led micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, green and inclusive businesses, and digital entrepreneurs, in urban and especially rural areas, including through the use of innovative tools, including mobile banking, payment platforms and digitalized payments, and encourages them to adopt regulatory and supervisory frameworks that facilitate the safe and sound provision of financial services, increase access to information to protect consumers and promote financial literacy, particularly for women, young people and the most vulnerable people;

10. *Also invites* Member States to support the digital entrepreneurship of women, including in e-commerce, including for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, to develop local solutions, relevant content and promote innovation and decent job creation;

11. *Encourages* Member States to expand alternative sources of financing, including blended finance as well as impact investing, cooperatives and venture philanthropy, venture capital and angel investors for start-ups, and diversify the retail financial service system to include non-traditional providers of financial services, such as microcredit and microfinance, stresses the value of a sound regulatory framework in this regard, and also encourages the provision of incentives to microfinance institutions that meet national standards for delivering sound financial services to the poor, with a particular emphasis on women;

12. *Emphasizes* the important role of national efforts aimed at bringing all workers from the informal to the formal economy and integrating them into national social security systems, as appropriate, including by simplifying administrative processes, such as enabling business registration through single-window and e-registration procedures, notes that recommendation No. 204 of the International Labour Organization can provide useful guidance on the transition from the informal to the formal economy, and recognizes that women face unique barriers to entering the formal workforce;

13. *Invites* Member States to strengthen the capacity of women to transition from the informal economy to formal employment and outline measures to reduce and redistribute women's and girls' disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work and promote decent paid care and domestic work for women and men in the public and private sectors by providing social protection, safe working conditions and equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, thereby facilitating the transition of informal workers, including those engaged in informal paid care and domestic work, into the formal economy;

14. *Recognizes* that technological improvement, particularly through the diffusion of technology, can provide new opportunities for businesses to improve their competitiveness and increase their productive capacities, and in this regard encourages Member States to increase cooperation in support of technology exchange

[12] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

and transfer on mutually agreed terms, innovation, capacity-building programmes and the sharing of best practices for promoting entrepreneurship;

15. *Highlights* the importance of supporting technologies that can have a high social return, correspond to local needs and contribute to technological upgrading and social development;

16. *Recognizes* that entrepreneurs can address sustainable development challenges by developing effective and simple solutions in areas of utility services, education, health care, hunger eradication and the environment, and that social entrepreneurship, including cooperatives and social enterprises, can help to alleviate poverty and catalyse social transformation by strengthening the productive capacities of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, and producing goods and services accessible to them;

17. *Acknowledges* the value of entrepreneurship education and the dissemination of entrepreneurial thinking across all sectors, encourages all relevant actors to increase efforts to systemically integrate entrepreneurship within the formal and informal education systems, including through, inter alia, skills development, career guidance to support entrepreneurship, behavioural approach programmes such as the Empretec programme of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Start and Improve Your Business programme of the International Labour Organization, capacity-building, professional training programmes, business incubators and national centres of excellence, as well as online platforms and e-mentorships, and also encourages cooperation and networking and the sharing of best practices while fostering innovation and using innovative teaching methods in line with the demands of the competitive markets and ensuring the full participation of women and girls;

18. *Encourages* all stakeholders, in particular women and young entrepreneurs, to apply their creativity and innovation to solving sustainable development challenges, and emphasizes that local innovation and entrepreneurship systems need to be able to fully participate in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[13] including the Sustainable Development Goals, and that concerted efforts are needed to ensure the participation of all;

19. *Reiterates* the need for the promotion and advancement of women in labour markets, including through policies and programmes aimed at the elimination of structural barriers and stereotypes that women of all ages face in the transition from school to work, and the need to address challenges faced by women returning from care-related career breaks and by older women, by providing access to technical and vocational skills training, as well as access to science, technology, engineering and mathematics training, entrepreneurship development and job-matching, and addressing the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and barriers they face, including violence, and the unequal distribution of unpaid care and work, and promoting their participation in relevant decision-making processes;

20. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to further develop financial literacy and financial education programmes that include an emphasis on the impact of finance on sustainable development, as appropriate, in order to ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to access financial services, in particular women and girls, farmers and those working in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

21. *Encourages and facilitates* women's entrepreneurship, including by improving access to financing and investment opportunities, tools of trade, business development and training, in order to increase trade and procurement, including

[13] Resolution 70/1.

public procurement from women's enterprises, including micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, cooperatives and self-help groups in both the public and private sectors;

22. *Strengthens* science and technology education policies and curricula to promote girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics so that they are relevant to the needs of and benefit women and girls, and encourages investment and research in sustainable technology that meets the needs of women, particularly in developing countries, in order to strengthen their capacities, so as to enable women to leverage science and technology for entrepreneurship and economic empowerment in the changing world of work;

23. *Highlights* the importance of developing and implementing policies and programmes to support women's entrepreneurship, in particular opportunities for new women entrepreneurs and those that lead to business expansion for existing women-owned micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and encourages Governments to increase investments in women-owned companies and businesses, to reduce administrative barriers in the regulatory environment, removing restrictions that deter women from engaging in business activities, and to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses by providing them with training and advisory services in business, access to finance, administration and information and communications technology, facilitating networking and information-sharing and increasing their participation on advisory boards and in other forums so as to enable them to contribute to the formulation and review of policies and programmes being developed, in particular by financial institutions;

24. *Recognizes* that social entrepreneurs are agents of change who can create alternative sustainable models of production, finance and consumption to respond to social, economic and environmental issues, while generating value for their community and stakeholders, also recognizes the need to implement policies and programmes aimed at supporting social entrepreneurship, and encourages Governments to set up an environment conducive to social innovation;

25. *Also recognizes* that harnessing entrepreneurial talents among all young people is vital for increasing productive capacities, developing new forms of entrepreneurship focused on information and communications technology, big data, digitization, smart cities and creating start-ups, and generating full and productive employment and decent work and inclusive economic growth, and encourages Member States to integrate youth entrepreneurship strategies and innovative programmes into their national policies, create a nurturing environment for the full realization of the rights and capabilities of all young people, and increase investment in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through impact investment favouring the poorest and most vulnerable, entrepreneurial education, youth capacity-building and information and communications technology;

26. *Encourages* Governments and all sectors of society to take sustainable measures to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for persons with disabilities, on an equal basis and without discrimination on the basis of gender and disability, including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development and vocational and entrepreneurial training, in order to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence, notes that further efforts are needed to increase awareness of the ability of persons with disabilities to innovate and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development through entrepreneurship, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders to establish research on policy support for entrepreneurs with disabilities and collect data in order to

develop or improve programmes, taking into account their capabilities, skills, socioeconomic status and other personal characteristics;

27. *Stresses* the need to highlight the value of entrepreneurship and its contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, by promoting policies, initiatives and programmes that support the development of an enabling entrepreneurial ecosystem, including by raising public awareness, reinforcing local support networks and employing specific measures aimed at removing negative preconceptions and negative cultural biases;

28. *Calls upon* all stakeholders to implement the present resolution as a means to deliver the comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, in which the dignity of the human person is fundamental, the Goals and targets are met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, no one is left behind and we endeavour to reach the furthest behind first;

29. *Stresses* the importance of indicators that can be used to formulate targeted entrepreneurship policies and measure their impact on the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard encourages Member States, in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, to further identify and develop indicators at the national and regional levels as appropriate;

30. *Recognizes* that democratic political institutions, transparent and accountable public and private entities, effective anti-corruption measures and responsible corporate governance are key conditions for making market economies and enterprises more responsive to the values and long-term goals of society;

31. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to further recognize and integrate entrepreneurship in its various forms into their policies, programmes and reports, as appropriate, and invites the United Nations system, and in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue to provide support to and assist Member States, at their request, to identify, formulate, implement and assess coherent policy measures on entrepreneurship and the promotion of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

32. *Decides* to give consideration, as appropriate, to the contribution of entrepreneurship to sustainable development in the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include the item entitled "Sustainable development" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, unless otherwise agreed.

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Agenda item 20 (a)

Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 20 (see A/73/538, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 23rd, 24th and 25th meetings, on 8, 21 and 28 November 2018. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.24 and A/C.2/73/L.24/Rev.1

2. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Tajikistan, on behalf of Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, the Comoros, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, the

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 12 parts, under the symbols A/73/538, A/73/538/Add.1, A/73/538/Add.2, A/73/538/Add.3, A/73/538/Add.4, A/73/538/Add.5, A/73/538/Add.6, A/73/538/Add.7, A/73/538/Add.8, A/73/538/Add.9, A/73/538/Add.10 and A/73/538/Add.11.

[1] A/C.2/73/SR.23, A/C.2/73/SR.24 and A/C.2/73/SR.25.

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Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, the Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Sustainable Development', 2018–2028" (A/C.2/73/L.24).

3. At its 25th meeting, on 28 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Sustainable Development', 2018–2028" (A/C.2/73/L.24/Rev.1), submitted by Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, the Comoros, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, the Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, the Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the revised draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee announced that Andorra, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania,

Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, the Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland had joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution. Subsequently, Brunei Darussalam, Guinea-Bissau, Rwanda and the United States of America also joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

6. Also at the 25th meeting, the representative of Tajikistan made a statement and orally corrected operative paragraphs 5 and 7 of the revised draft resolution.[2]

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.24/Rev.1, as orally corrected (see para. 14, draft resolution I).

8. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union.

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.34/Rev.1

9. At the 24th meeting, on 21 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/73/L.34/Rev.1).

10. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

11. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.34/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 125 to 47, with 3 abstentions (see para. 14, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

[2] See A/C.2/73/SR.25.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

New Zealand, Norway, Turkey.

12. Also at the 24th meeting, before the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union) and the United States of America.

13. At the same meeting, after the vote, a statement in explanation of was made by the representative of New Zealand, also on behalf of Norway.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

14. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 71/222 of 21 December 2016, by which it proclaimed for the period from 2018 to 2028 the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development",

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and 1989/84 of 24 May 1989 on guidelines for international decades in economic and social fields and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

Reaffirming the sustainable development goals and targets related to water resources, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1] and determined to achieve the goal of ensuring the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all and other related goals and targets,

Emphasizing that water is critical for sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger, that water, energy, food security and nutrition are linked and that water is indispensable for human development, health and well-being and a vital element of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and other relevant goals in the social, environmental and economic fields,

Noting that the world is not on track to achieve water-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets at the global level by 2030 at the current rate of progress,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to

[1] Resolution 70/1.

address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Reaffirming further that the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, has a central role in overseeing the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the global level,

Recognizing synergies between the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,[2] the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[3] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[4]

Emphasizing that the achievement of the water-related goals and targets would contribute to the successful implementation of the New Urban Agenda,[5] the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[6] the Convention on Biological Diversity[7] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[8]

Recognizing that the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction contributes to the achievement of the objectives of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, and acknowledging that disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development,

Taking note of the report of the High-level Panel on Water established by the Secretary-General and the President of the World Bank, entitled "Making Every Drop Count", the *Sustainable Development Goal 6 Synthesis Report on Water and Sanitation*, issued in 2018, and the *United Nations World Water Development Report 2018*,

Noting with concern that climate change is one of the factors that can exacerbate the global water stress and the need for climate adaptation strategies to address water issues,

Recognizing that water-related issues, including the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and targets, need to be better reflected in the agendas of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the Final Declaration, the Co-Chairs summary and the Call for Action and Partnerships of the High-level International Conference on the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, co-organized by the Government of Tajikistan and the United Nations, held in Dushanbe from 20 to 22 June 2018,

Noting the outcomes and the Ministerial Declaration of the eighth World Water Forum, held in Brasilia from 18 to 23 March 2018, and the outcomes of the United Nations special thematic sessions on water and disasters,

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[2] Resolution 69/313, annex.
[3] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.
[4] Resolution 69/283, annex II.
[5] Resolution 71/256, annex.
[6] Resolution 69/15, annex.
[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.
[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

1. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General's Plan: Water Action Decade 2018–2028, launched during the high-level event of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly, held at the initiative of the President of the General Assembly on 22 March 2018, World Water Day;

2. *Also welcomes* the activities related to water undertaken by Member States, the Secretariat and the organizations of the United Nations system, inter alia, through inter-agency work, as well as contributions from major groups, for the observance and implementation of the Decade;

3. *Reaffirms* its decision, in accordance with its resolution 71/222 on the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, to review the implementation of the Decade at its seventy-seventh session;

4. *Decides* to convene, in New York, from 22 to 24 March 2023, coinciding with World Water Day, the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, which are a greater focus on the sustainable development and integrated management of water resources for the achievement of social, economic and environmental objectives, the implementation and promotion of related programmes and projects, as well as on the furtherance of cooperation and partnerships at all levels, in order to help to achieve the internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which will result in a summary of the proceedings of the conference, to be prepared by the President of the General Assembly as its outcome document, that will feed into the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

5. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, through voluntary contributions, to convene in New York, in 2021, a one-day high-level meeting to promote the implementation of the water-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, in support of the implementation of the Decade and the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the support of UN-Water, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other entities of the United Nations system, to prepare a report for the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly, to assess progress in the implementation of the first half of the Decade, including the Secretary-General's Plan: Water Action Decade 2018–2028, and, taking into account best practices and lessons learned, to identify obstacles and constraints encountered, actions and initiatives needed to overcome them during the second half of the Decade and activities planned by Member States, the Secretary-General and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, as appropriate, which will serve as an input to the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

7. *Decides* that the Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action shall be preceded by regional and global preparatory meetings, as appropriate, and informed by existing water-related meetings at the regional and global level, and that all costs relating to the Conference and its preparation shall be financed through voluntary contributions, and in this connection requests the Secretary-General to coordinate the preparatory process and to invite all relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and other relevant organizations, within their respective mandates, to provide support to the review process;

8. *Encourages* Member States, relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant partners, including the private sector, to

continue to contribute to the review and implementation of the Decade, including through capacity-building, in order to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

9. *Reiterates* the critical importance of effective review of the implementation of the Decade at the national, regional and international levels, as appropriate, and in this regard invites Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, financial institutions, private sector and other relevant stakeholders and donors to support the preparations for the Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action through voluntary contributions to a trust fund,[9] including for the purpose of assisting developing countries in participating fully and effectively in the review and implementation of the Decade;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the participation and full involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including women, children, young people, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, in the implementation of the Decade at all levels;

11. *Decides* to finalize the arrangements for the comprehensive review during its seventy-fifth session, taking into account the process of follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level after the first cycle of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

12. *Invites* the Secretary-General, with the support of UN-Water, to continue taking appropriate steps, within existing resources, to support and organize the activities of the Decade at the global, regional and country levels, taking into account the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and other relevant United Nations structures, and to support those Member States which lack capacity, at their request, in the implementation of the Decade and the 2030 Agenda.

[9] The trust fund to support the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

Draft resolution II
Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 and 57/270 A of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 64/236 of 24 December 2009, 65/152 of 20 December 2010, 66/197 of 22 December 2011, 66/288 of 27 July 2012, 67/203 of 21 December 2012, 68/210 of 20 December 2013, 68/309 of 10 September 2014, 68/310 of 15 September 2014, 69/108 of 8 December 2014, 69/214 of 19 December 2014, 70/201 of 22 December 2015, 71/223 of 21 December 2016, 72/216 of 20 December 2017 and all other relevant resolutions on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[5] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[6] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[7] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[8] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[9] the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[10] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[11] and the outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,[12]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[7] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[8] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[9] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[10] Resolution S-21/2, annex.

[11] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[12] Resolution 68/6.

comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the Istanbul Declaration[13] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[14] adopted by the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011, and endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Programme of Action,

Recalling also the Political Declaration adopted by the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[15] held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/294 of 25 July 2016, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Declaration,

Recalling further the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024[16] and the Vienna Declaration,[17]

Recalling the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[18]

Reaffirming the importance of supporting the implementation of Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[19]

Reaffirming also the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[20] adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,

Reaffirming further the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[21]

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[13] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. I.

[14] Ibid., chap. II.

[15] Resolution 70/294, annex.

[16] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[17] Ibid., annex I.

[18] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[19] A/57/304, annex.

[20] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[21] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Reaffirming the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[22] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[23] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Emphasizing the importance of oceans for sustainable development, as embodied in Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and various decisions taken by the former Commission on Sustainable Development, reaffirming in this regard the outcome of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development,[24] taking note of its seven partnership dialogues, and calling upon all stakeholders to urgently undertake, inter alia, the actions highlighted in the call for action adopted at the Conference and implement the respective voluntary commitments pledged by individual Member States and other stakeholders during the Conference,

Recognizing that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of United Nations conferences, the United Nations Millennium Declaration[25] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Noting with concern, at the threshold of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, that in 2013, 783 million people lived on less than $1.90 a day, compared with 1.867 billion people in 1990; in 2016, in addition to being affected by income poverty, 815 million people suffered from hunger; and in 2017, 1.46 billion people in 104 countries were classified as poor, 689 million of whom were children under 18 years of age, according to the global Multidimensional Poverty Index,

Recognizing that, since the holding of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the international community has shown uneven progress in the achievement of the internationally agreed goals and commitments necessary to achieve sustainable development, including eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions,

Reaffirming the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions, and reiterating that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities,

Recognizing that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching and essential objectives for sustainable development,

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[22] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[23] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[24] Resolution 71/312, annex.

[25] Resolution 55/2.

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;[26]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system;[27]

3. *Reaffirms* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[6] and urges its full implementation;

4. *Affirms* the contributions, ongoing efforts and commitments towards the full implementation of Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[5] including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, as well as the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and stresses the importance of their continued implementation in the pursuit of sustainable development;

5. *Reaffirms*, as set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[28] all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, as set out in principle 7 thereof;

6. *Acknowledges* the importance of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the resulting processes for the elaboration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and for the realization of sustainable development;

7. *Recognizes* that the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development constituted a milestone that ushered in important international instruments and commitments that continue to guide progress in closing development gaps between developed and developing countries, including the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests (Forest Principles),[29] the Convention on Biological Diversity,[30] the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[20] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[31]

8. *Also recognizes* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development builds upon elements from the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, inter alia, the establishment of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, the format and organizational arrangements of which were later established by its resolution 67/290 of 9 July 2013, a strengthened

[26] A/73/204.

[27] A/73/81-E/2018/59.

[28] Resolution 70/1.

[29] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex III.

[30] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[31] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

Economic and Social Council, as later defined in its resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013, the process that led to the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, as later defined in its resolutions 68/309 and 70/1, the strengthening of the science-policy interface, including in the form of *the Global Sustainable Development Report*, and the process that led to the adoption of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism;

9. *Stresses* the need, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to benefit from and build on experiences, best practices, challenges and the lessons learned from the unfinished business of the previous agreements on sustainable development, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as to contribute to identifying and addressing new and emerging challenges;

10. *Urges* States to continue to take concrete measures that contribute to the full and effective implementation of internationally agreed development goals and commitments in the economic, social and environmental fields since 1992, in order to support the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

11. *Invites* the high-level political forum on sustainable development to address and build on lessons learned from the unfinished business of the previous agreements on sustainable development, including the Millennium Development Goals;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to support the effective implementation of their commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, in accordance with their respective principles and provisions, and to take effective and concrete actions and measures at all levels and to enhance international cooperation;

13. *Stresses* the importance of overcoming silos and seeking innovative and coordinated approaches in integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development — economic, social and environmental — at the global, regional and national levels, and requests the United Nations to further mainstream and integrate the three dimensions throughout the United Nations system;

14. *Takes note with appreciation* of the actions and initiatives implemented by United Nations system entities in order to mainstream the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout their work, and encourages the system to continue to exchange experiences and lessons learned in this regard and to step up its efforts to ensure effective support to States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

15. *Urges* the United Nations development system to continue to enhance its support for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[14] the 2016 Political Declaration of the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[15] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[18] the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[16] Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[19] all of which are integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and calls upon the entities of the United Nations development system to integrate and mainstream them fully into their operational activities for development;

16. *Urges* the speedy and effective implementation and the effective follow-up and review of the sustainable development priorities for small island developing States identified in the Samoa Pathway and set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and reaffirms that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities;

17. *Notes* that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, adopted, among other commitments on sustainable consumption and production, the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns as a tool for action on sustainable consumption and production, and in this regard, recognizes the commitment by the United Nations Environment Assembly to accelerate its implementation, including through relevant voluntary actions by Member States;

18. *Urges* the United Nations development system to intensify support for States in fully implementing the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016;[21]

19. *Emphasizes* that regional and subregional organizations have a role to play in promoting sustainable development in their respective regions by, inter alia, promoting peer learning and cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, as well as effective linkages among global, regional, subregional and national processes, as appropriate, to advance sustainable development;

20. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Reiterates* the call of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for the further mainstreaming of the three dimensions throughout the United Nations system, and in this regard invites the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on progress made, including for the consideration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including an assessment of progress in the implementation of relevant instruments and commitments emanating from Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, building on lessons learned, success stories, partnerships and their contribution to promoting integration and coherence in advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development".

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Sustainable development: follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 20 (see A/73/538, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 23rd, 25th and 27th meetings, on 8 and 28 November and 3 December 2018. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.14 and A/C.2/73/L.53

2. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" (A/C.2/73/L.14).

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 12 parts, under the symbols A/73/538, A/73/538/Add.1, A/73/538/Add.2, A/73/538/Add.3, A/73/538/Add.4, A/73/538/Add.5, A/73/538/Add.6, A/73/538/Add.7, A/73/538/Add.8, A/73/538/Add.9, A/73/538/Add.10 and A/73/538/Add.11.

[1] See A/C.2/73/SR.23, A/C.2/73/SR.25 and A/C.2/73/SR.27.

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3. At its 27th meeting, on 3 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" (A/C.2/73/L.53), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Mehdi Remaoun (Algeria), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.14.

4. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement on the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.53.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.53 (see para. 13, draft resolution I).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.53, draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.14 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.27 and A/C.2/73/L.27/Rev.1

7. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations" (A/C.2/73/L.27).

8. At its 25th meeting, on 28 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/73/L.27/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.27.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.27/Rev.1 had no programme budget implications.

10. Also at the same meeting, Romania joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

11. Also at its 25th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.27/Rev.1 (see para. 13, draft resolution II).

12. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Turkey, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Colombia.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

13. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados[1] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (Barbados Programme of Action),[2] the Mauritius Declaration[3] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[4] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway (Samoa Pathway)[5] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[6] including chapter VII, on the sustainable development of small island developing States,

Reaffirming also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[7]

Reaffirming further its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", by which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which

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[1] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

[5] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[6] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[7] Resolution 66/288, annex.

is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Reaffirming also its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in which it urged the United Nations development system to enhance its support for the implementation of, inter alia, the Samoa Pathway and called upon the entities of the development system to integrate and mainstream it fully into their operational activities for development,

Reaffirming further its resolution 72/279 of 1 June 2018, and welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General to better position the United Nations operational activities for development to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda,

Recalling its resolutions 72/217 of 20 December 2017, 72/307 of 27 July 2018, and all relevant previous resolutions,[8]

Recalling also the outcome documents and decisions of all United Nations conferences and processes related to the sustainable development priorities of small island developing States, including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, [9] and recognizing that disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and which are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development in small island developing States,

Reaffirming the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[10]

Welcoming the meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development on the theme "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies: SIDS perspective", held in New York on 11 July 2018,

Reaffirming that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development, in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities, and that they remain constrained in meeting their goals in all three dimensions of sustainable development, and recognizing the ownership and leadership of small island developing States in overcoming some of these challenges, while stressing that, in the absence of international cooperation, achieving success will remain difficult,

Recognizing climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk, and reaffirming the importance of strengthening international cooperation in the face of disasters,

Acknowledging that climate change and sea level rise continue to pose a significant risk to small island developing States and their efforts to achieve sustainable development and, for some, represent the gravest threat to their survival and viability,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement, [11] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention

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[8] See resolutions 70/202, 69/283, 69/217 and 69/15.

[9] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[10] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[11] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

on Climate Change[12] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Highlighting the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

Looking forward to the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

Taking note of the important relationship between the ocean and climate change, which include the Ocean Pathway initiative, launched on the margins of the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

Reiterating the call upon all stakeholders to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development by, inter alia, accelerating actions to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris, plastics and microplastics, nutrient pollution, untreated wastewater, solid waste discharges, hazardous substances, pollution from ships and abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, while at the same time recognizing that small island developing States are among the most vulnerable to the impacts of marine pollution,

Reaffirming that oceans and seas, along with coastal areas, form an essential component of the Earth's ecosystem and are intrinsically linked to sustainable development, and reaffirming also that healthy, productive and resilient oceans and coasts are critical for, inter alia, poverty eradication, access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food, livelihoods, economic development and essential ecosystem services, including carbon sequestration, and represent an important element of identity and culture for the people of small island developing States,

Recognizing the importance of water and sanitation for sustainable development, especially in atoll nations, to address the range of issues around sea level rise, salt water intrusion and changes in rainfall patterns, and in this regard acknowledging the launch by the General Assembly of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028,

Recognizing also that health is a precondition for, and an outcome and indicator of, all three dimensions of sustainable development and that the Samoa Pathway calls for policies and programmes to ensure better health, and recognizing also the need for the prevention, detection and treatment of communicable and non-communicable diseases and for quality essential health-care services while also reducing the health-related impacts resulting from natural and man-made disasters in small island developing States,

Reaffirming the importance of the Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework and the progress made, including through the Steering Committee on Partnerships for Small Island Developing States and the third annual global multi-stakeholder small island developing States partnership dialogue held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 12 July 2018, as well as the importance and progress of the Small Island Developing States Global Business Network, and the need for its continued coherence with the Partnership Framework,

[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Recognizing that it is crucial to mobilize resources from all sources for the effective implementation of the Samoa Pathway, including through multi-stakeholder partnerships,

Recognizing also that, in spite of the considerable efforts of small island developing States and the mobilization of their limited resources, their progress in the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in implementing the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy has been uneven, that some have regressed economically and that a number of significant challenges remain,

Noting the decline in correspondent banking relationships experienced by many small island developing States, and looking forward in this regard to the continuing consideration of this issue in forthcoming reports of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, as appropriate and in accordance with existing mandates,

Recognizing the long-standing cooperation and support provided by the international community, which has played an important role in helping small island developing States to make progress in addressing their vulnerabilities and in supporting their sustainable development efforts, and recalling paragraph 19 of the Samoa Pathway, which calls for strengthening this cooperation,

Reaffirming the need to mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects, and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to enable small island developing States to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[13]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Comprehensive review of United Nations system support for small island developing States: final findings", prepared pursuant to resolution 69/288 of 8 June 2015;[14]

3. *Further takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Assessment resulting from the evolving mandates of the small island developing States units of the Secretariat", submitted pursuant to resolution 72/217;[15]

4. *Reaffirms* the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[5] and urges its speedy, full and effective implementation, as well as effective monitoring, follow-up and review;

5. *Urges* the full and effective implementation of the commitments and partnerships announced at the Conference and the fulfilment of the provisions on all means of implementation, as contained in the Samoa Pathway;

6. *Welcomes* the continuing commitment of the international community to take urgent and concrete action to address the vulnerabilities of small island developing States and to continue to seek solutions, including additional ones, to the major challenges facing them in a concerted manner in order to support the full implementation of the Samoa Pathway;

[13] A/73/226.
[14] See A/72/119 and A/72/119/Add.1.
[15] A/73/345.

7. *Recalls* the sustainable development priorities for small island developing States identified in the Samoa Pathway and set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[16] as well as the outcome documents of all related United Nations conferences and processes, and, recognizing the interlinkages between them, urges consideration of these interlinkages through their implementation;

8. *Also recalls* paragraph 6 of resolution 72/217, notes that the high-level political forum on sustainable development shall devote adequate time at its 2019 meeting and at its future meetings to continuing to address the sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States and the follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway, and encourages the high-level political forum to devote sufficient attention to these discussions, bearing in mind that small island developing States are a special case for sustainable development, as well as to lessons learned from the follow-up and review processes of previous conferences on small island developing States and their outcome documents;

9. *Reiterates* the call, made in the declaration entitled "Our ocean, our future: call for action",[17] for action to be taken, on an urgent basis, to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and urges its implementation, while recognizing the important contributions of the partnership dialogues and voluntary commitments made in the context of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development to the effective and timely implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 and therefore urges the fulfilment of these commitments;

10. *Recognizes* the efforts to implement the Global Action Programme on Food Security and Nutrition in Small Island Developing States, and encourages its continued implementation in all small island developing States regions to address challenges related to food security and nutrition, including through, inter alia, the Interregional Initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

11. *Acknowledges* that small island developing States are committed to the implementation of the Samoa Pathway and are mobilizing resources at the national and regional levels to that effect, despite their limited resource base, and calls upon the international community to assist and support small island developing States in the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, including by integrating its provisions into their national and regional policies and development frameworks;

12. *Urges* all partners to integrate the Samoa Pathway into their respective cooperation frameworks, programmes and activities, as appropriate, to ensure its effective follow-up and implementation;

13. *Urges* entities of the United Nations system to mainstream, within the realm of their mandates, the Samoa Pathway into their respective strategic plans and frameworks, and encourages all relevant stakeholders to make available sufficient and predictable resources for the effective and accelerated implementation of the Samoa Pathway;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, and encourages international and regional financial institutions and other multilateral development partners to continue to support small island developing States in their efforts to implement national sustainable development strategies and programmes by incorporating the priorities and activities of small island developing States into their relevant strategic and

[16] Resolution 70/1.

[17] Resolution 71/312, annex.

programmatic frameworks, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework process, at both the national and regional levels, in line with their mandates and overall priorities;

15. *Calls upon* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States of the Secretariat, in accordance with their respective mandates, to continue to enhance the necessary analytical and advocacy support for the work of the Steering Committee on Partnerships for Small Island Developing States, to ensure an annual action-oriented, results-focused global multi-stakeholder small island developing States partnership dialogue;

16. *Encourages* the United Nations system to support the efforts of small island developing States to strengthen their cooperation on building resilience and on enhancing action with regard to adaptation to climate change;

17. *Recognizes* progress made in collecting disaster-related data and that the data and analysis from the Sendai Framework monitor, as well as the outcomes of the 2019 session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, are contributions to the midterm review of the Samoa Pathway, and further recognizes that the development of national climate change adaptation strategies and national disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020 is an opportunity to maximize synergies and the shared use of data sets and risk assessments;

18. *Underlines* the need to give due consideration to the issues and concerns of small island developing States in all relevant major United Nations conferences and processes;

19. *Recalls* the need to fully mainstream a gender perspective into all United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions and their follow-up processes;

20. *Recognizes* that gender inequality remains a challenge for small island developing States, and recognizes further the need to continue efforts to further promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, as well as to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls;

21. *Underscores* the important role of the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the High Representative in supporting small island developing States, in accordance with their respective mandates, including those under the Samoa Pathway and other intergovernmentally agreed documents and resolutions, recognizes their improved coordination and collaboration, and urges the continued leveraging of their complementary strengths in carrying out their annual workplans and related activities;

22. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the High Representative to support the sustainable development agenda of the small island developing States through the Inter-Agency Consultative Group on Small Island Developing States and to enhance coherence and effective coordination between United Nations agencies and relevant stakeholders and improve communication and consultation with Member States;

23. *Recommends* that the United Nations system continue to work towards ensuring that the activities in support of sustainable development of small island developing States, within the mandate of each entity, are aligned with the priorities of those States and take into consideration any existing and national and regional enabling mechanisms facilitating policy coherence and consolidating resource mobilization;

24. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016, and urges the United Nations system to take effective measures to reduce the reporting burden on small island developing States and support the strengthening of the effective monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Samoa Pathway through coherent, coordinated and effective linkages between the follow-up and review arrangements for the Samoa Pathway, the 2030 Agenda and other intergovernmentally agreed outcomes;

25. *Recognizes* that improved data collection and statistical analysis are required to enable small island developing States to effectively plan, follow up on, evaluate the implementation of and track success in attaining the internationally agreed development goals, and in this regard urges the international community and United Nations system, in particular the United Nations development system, to continue their support to small island developing States in strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data, in line with provisions of the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda, as appropriate to national contexts, with a view to supporting the implementation, follow-up and review of the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda;

26. *Urges* United Nations system entities to coordinate the planning and implementation of their capacity-building activities in close consultation with the small island developing States and all development partners so as to strengthen effectiveness and efficiency in providing support to achieve the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda, while avoiding saturation of the absorptive capacity of small island developing States at the country level;

27. *Requests* United Nations system entities, including the international financial institutions, to actively contribute, within their respective mandates, to addressing the unique and particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States, including through a more holistic approach so as to enable better access to financing for small island developing States;

28. *Reiterates* the request to the Secretary-General, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 71/243 and in line with paragraph 4 of resolution 72/279, to conduct a review of the configuration, capacity, resource needs, role and development services of multi-country offices, in full consultation with the countries involved, to improve the contribution of the offices to country progress in achieving the 2030 Agenda, to be presented to the Economic and Social Council at the operational activities for development segment of its 2019 session;

29. *Reaffirms* its decision to convene a one-day high-level review at United Nations Headquarters in September 2019, to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, which will result in a concise, action-oriented and intergovernmentally agreed political declaration, and in this regard recalls its decision 72/559, in which it decided to transmit the draft decision to hold the high-level review on 27 September 2019 to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session for action, requests the President of the General Assembly to finalize the organizational arrangements for the meeting, and encourages Governments and the United Nations system to attend the high-level review at the highest possible level;

30. *Welcomes* the convening of the regional preparatory meetings of small island developing States in Belize, Mauritius and Tonga, as well as the interregional meeting for all small island developing States, held in Samoa, in order to undertake a review of progress in the implementation of the Samoa Pathway at the national and regional levels, and takes note of their outcomes;

31. *Reiterates* the critical importance of the full and effective participation of the small island developing States in the high-level review process, and in this regard invites Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders and donors to contribute to the voluntary trust fund for the purpose of assisting small island developing States in participating fully and effectively in the high-level review processes;

32. *Welcomes* the establishment of the network of small island developing States national focal points, which is aimed at providing a vital link between the global, regional, and national levels to facilitate coordination, information sharing and planning on the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the Sustainable Development Goals, further welcomes the convening of the inaugural meeting of the small island developing States national focal points on 29 October 2018, in Apia, on the sidelines of the interregional preparatory meeting for the midterm review of the Samoa Pathway, and encourages all small island developing States to participate in the network in order to further the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the 2030 Agenda;

33. *Notes* the initial findings of the Joint Inspection Unit that resources have not increased over a period during which the mandates of the Small Island Developing States Unit and the Office of the High Representative have significantly expanded;

34. *Notes with concern* the findings and conclusions of the needs assessment resulting from the expanding mandates of the small island developing States units of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the High Representative;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General, by 2020, within existing resources, to ensure the allocation of adequate resources to respond to the expanding mandates in support of the sustainable development agenda of the small island developing States, and looks forward to the update by the Secretary-General on the repositioning of the United Nations development system and the alignment of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs with the 2030 Agenda;

36. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, under the agenda item on follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway, information on what has been done to address the needs resulting from the expanded mandates given to the small island developing States units in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the High Representative;

37. *Reiterates its request* in resolution 72/307 that the Secretary-General submit a report on the follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway, making it available, on an exceptional basis, in early 2019, following the regional and interregional preparatory meetings for the high-level review, so that it can serve to support the intergovernmental consultations and be considered by the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

38. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States", unless otherwise agreed.

Draft resolution II
Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados,[2] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[4] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[5], the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[6] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[7] the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[8] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[9] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[10] as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement,[11] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[12] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[13]

Recalling also the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,[14]

Recalling further its resolution 71/312 of 6 July 2017, in which it endorsed the declaration entitled "Our ocean, our future: call for action", adopted by the high-level

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[7] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[8] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[9] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[10] Resolution 70/1.

[11] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[13] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[14] Resolution S-22/2, annex.

United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, held from 5 to 9 June 2017, coinciding with World Oceans Day on 8 June, reaffirming in this regard the important role of the declaration in demonstrating the collective will to take action to conserve and sustainably use our oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and recognizing the important contributions of the partnership dialogues and voluntary commitments made in the context of that Conference to the effective and timely implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Taking into account all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999, 55/203 of 20 December 2000, 57/261 of 20 December 2002, 59/230 of 22 December 2004, 61/197 of 20 December 2006, 63/214 of 19 December 2008, 65/155 of 20 December 2010, 67/205 of 21 December 2012, 69/216 of 19 December 2014 and 71/224 of 21 December 2016,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[15]

Recalling also the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 24 March 1983,[16] and the protocols thereto, which contain the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[17] which provides the legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

Recalling the Convention on Biological Diversity[18] and other biodiversity-related conventions, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora[19] and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat,[20]

Emphasizing the importance of national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector as recognized by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[21]

Recalling the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization,

Considering that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States that are ecologically fragile and socially and economically vulnerable and are also affected, inter alia, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, high levels of poverty and the resulting social problems, and the challenges and opportunities of globalization and trade liberalization,

Recognizing that the Caribbean Sea has unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystems,

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[15] Resolution 60/1.

[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1506, No. 25974.

[17] Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[18] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[19] Ibid., vol. 993, No. 14537.

[20] Ibid., vol. 996, No. 14583.

[21] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

Recognizing also that the Caribbean has been shown to be the most tourism-dependent region in the world relative to its size,

Noting that the Caribbean Sea, when compared with all other large marine ecosystems, is surrounded by the largest number of countries in the world,

Emphasizing that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change, climate variability and associated phenomena, such as the rising sea level, oceanic oscillation phenomenon, such as the El Niño phenomenon, and the potential increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes, which increase their sustainable development challenges,

Welcoming the initiative of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to establish a debt swap task force so that Caribbean economies can mitigate and adapt to the consequences of climate change while trying to reduce the debt burden,

Bearing in mind the heavy reliance of most of the Caribbean economies on their coastal areas, as well as on the marine environment in general, to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals,

Acknowledging that the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea for maritime transport, as well as the considerable number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national jurisdiction where Caribbean countries exercise their rights and duties under international law, present a challenge for the effective management of resources,

Noting the problem of marine pollution caused, inter alia, by land-based sources and the continuing threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and sewage, as well as from the accidental release of hazardous and noxious substances in the Caribbean Sea area,

Recalling the call upon all stakeholders to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development by, inter alia, accelerating actions to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris, plastics and microplastics, nutrient pollution, untreated wastewater, solid waste discharges, hazardous substances, pollution from ships and abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, while at the same time recognizing that small island developing States are among the most vulnerable to the impacts of marine pollution,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on the safe transport of radioactive materials,

Mindful of the diversity of and dynamic interaction and competition among socioeconomic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources,

Mindful also of the efforts of the Caribbean countries to address in a more holistic manner the sectoral issues relating to the management of the wider Caribbean Sea region and, in so doing, to promote the integrated management of the wider Caribbean Sea region in the context of sustainable development, through a regional cooperative effort among Caribbean countries,

Noting the significant progress made on regional ocean governance through the formulation of the strategic action programme of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem project, endorsed by ministers in 21 countries of the region,

Welcoming the continued efforts of the States members and associate members of the Association of Caribbean States to develop and implement regional initiatives

to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, and recognizing in this regard the firm commitment by Heads of State and Government of the Association to take the steps necessary to ensure the recognition of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, without prejudice to relevant international law,

Recalling the creation by the Association of Caribbean States of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and welcoming its ongoing work and its contribution to the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea,

Cognizant of the importance of the Caribbean Sea to present and future generations and to the heritage and the continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area and of the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

1. *Recognizes* that the Caribbean Sea is an area of unique biodiversity and a highly fragile ecosystem that requires relevant regional and international development partners to work together to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, including the consideration of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such without prejudice to international law;

2. *Underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, and emphasizes the need for regional and international action to enhance efforts at the national and subnational levels, as appropriate, to build resilience;

3. *Notes* the efforts of the Caribbean States and the work undertaken by the Caribbean Sea Commission of the Association of Caribbean States, including the development of their concept of the designation of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, and invites the international community to support such efforts;

4. *Reaffirms its support* for the plan of action adopted by the Caribbean Sea Commission, including its scientific and technical components and its governance and outreach components, and invites the international community and the United Nations system to enhance their support, including financial, technical and capacity-building assistance, as appropriate, to Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to implement the plan of action;

5. *Welcomes* the resources provided by some donors to support the work of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and invites the international community to continue and to enhance its support, as appropriate, to the Commission, including through the provision of financial resources, capacity-building and technical support, the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and the sharing of experience in the areas of work of the Commission;

6. *Invites* the international community to support the efforts of the Caribbean Sea Commission to establish a databank which with the aim of improving the management of the specific emerging critical issues related to the sustainability of the Caribbean Sea through the sharing of management experiences and project resource data, including, but not limited to, the prediction, monitoring and management of sargassum seaweed inundation faced by the Caribbean;

7. *Looks forward* to the convening of the eighth summit of the Association of Caribbean States, to be held in Nicaragua in March 2019, at which the plan of action for the period 2019–2021, which will include measures to support and promote the preservation and sustainable use of the Caribbean Sea, will be adopted;

8. *Recognizes* the efforts of Caribbean countries to create conditions leading to sustainable development aimed at combating poverty and inequality, and in this regard notes with interest the initiatives of the Association of Caribbean States in the focal areas of sustainable tourism, trade, transport and natural disasters;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to assist Caribbean countries and their regional organizations, as appropriate, in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, and pollution from the illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities;

10. *Invites* the Association of Caribbean States to submit to the Secretary-General a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session;

11. *Calls upon* all States to become parties to the relevant international agreements to enhance maritime safety and to promote the protection of the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from pollution, damage and degradation from ships and ship-generated waste;

12. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, the Special Area designation for the wider Caribbean region under annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto,[22] which entered into force in May 2011;

13. *Supports* the efforts of Caribbean countries to implement sustainable fisheries management programmes and to meet the principles of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

14. *Calls upon* States, taking into consideration the Convention on Biological Diversity,[18] to develop national, regional and international programmes to halt the loss of marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Sea, in particular fragile ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves;

15. *Notes with deep concern* that invasive alien species, such as *Pterois miles* and *P. volitans*, known as lionfish, constitute an emerging threat to biodiversity in the wider Caribbean region, and urges the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide assistance and support in addressing this issue in the region;

16. *Also notes with deep concern* the sargassum seaweed influx and its negative impact on the people, the territory and the economy of the Caribbean, as well as the deterioration of the coral reefs;

17. *Invites* Member States and intergovernmental organizations of the United Nations system to continue their efforts to assist Caribbean countries in becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols concerning the management, protection and sustainable utilization of Caribbean Sea resources and in implementing those conventions and protocols effectively;

18. *Calls upon* the international community, the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions, and invites the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to actively support the national and regional activities of the

[22] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1340, No. 22484.

Caribbean States for the promotion of the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources;

19. *Expresses deep concern* about the severe destruction and devastation caused to several countries by heightened hurricane activity in the wider Caribbean region in recent years, in particular the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season;

20. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing activities of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and invites Member States and other partners to support early warning systems in the region;

21. *Urges* the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide aid and assistance to the countries of the Caribbean region in the implementation of their long-term programmes of disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, management, relief and recovery, on the basis of their development priorities, through the integration of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction into a comprehensive approach to sustainable development;

22. *Acknowledges* the pivotal role of the Association of Caribbean States in regional dialogue and in the consolidation of a wider Caribbean cooperation zone in the field of disaster risk reduction, as well as the importance of the international community in deepening existing cooperation and consolidating new initiatives with that regional mechanism in the context of the outcomes of the High-level Conference on Disaster Reduction of the Association of Caribbean States, held in Saint-Marc, Haiti, from 14 to 16 November 2007, and the plan of action approved by the Ministerial Council of the Association upon the recommendation of the Conference;

23. *Invites* Member States, international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to consider training programmes for the development of a human resources capacity at different levels and to develop research aimed at enhancing the food security of Caribbean countries, as well as the sustainable management of renewable marine and coastal resources;

24. *Calls upon* Member States to improve, as a matter of priority, their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage, particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation;

25. *Encourages* the international community and the United Nations system, in line with their programming priorities, to support initiatives aimed at addressing mitigation of and adaptation to climate change in the wider Caribbean region included in the Plan of Action for 2016–2018;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, under the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" of the item entitled "Sustainable development", on the implementation of the present resolution, emphasizing the three dimensions of sustainable development, including a section on the possible legal and financial implications of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such, without prejudice to relevant international law, taking into account the views expressed by Member States and relevant regional organizations, unless otherwise agreed.

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Sustainable development: disaster risk reduction

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 20 (see A/73/538, para. 2). Action on sub-item (c) was taken at the 23rd and 27th meetings, on 8 November and 3 December 2018. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.6 and A/C.2/73/L.6/Rev.1 and amendments contained in document A/C.2/73/L.59

2. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon" (A/C.2/73/L.6).

3. At its 27th meeting, on 3 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/73/L.6/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.6.

4. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, made a

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 12 parts, under the symbols A/73/538, A/73/538/Add.1, A/73/538/Add.2, A/73/538/Add.3, A/73/538/Add.4, A/73/538/Add.5, A/73/538/Add.6, A/73/538/Add.7, A/73/538/Add.8, A/73/538/Add.9, A/73/538/Add.10 and A/73/538/Add.11.

[1] See A/C.2/73/SR.23 and A/C.2/73/SR.27.

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statement and introduced proposed amendments to draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.6/Rev.1, as contained in document A/C.2/73/L.59.[2]

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the proposed amendments had no programme budget implications.

6. Also at its 27th meeting, the Committee rejected the proposed amendments contained in document A/C.2/73/L.59 by a recorded vote of 117 to 44, with 8 abstentions. The voting was as follows:[3]

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Iceland, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Switzerland, Turkey.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.6/Rev.1 had no programme budget implications.

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.6/Rev.1 (see para. 17, draft resolution I).

[3] See A/C.2/73/SR.27.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.15 and A/C.2/73/L.15/Rev.1 and amendments contained in document A/C.2/73/L.58

9. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Disaster risk reduction" (A/C.2/73/L.15).

10. At its 27th meeting, on 3 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/73/L.15/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.15.

11. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, made a statement and introduced proposed amendments to draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.15/Rev.1, as contained in document A/C.2/73/L.58.[4]

12. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the proposed amendments had no programme budget implications.

13. Also at its 27th meeting, the Committee rejected the proposed amendments contained in document A/C.2/73/L.58 by a recorded vote of 121 to 44, with 8 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, *Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan,* Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Iceland, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Switzerland, Turkey.

14. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.15/Rev.1 had no programme budget implications.

15. Also at the same meeting, Armenia, the Russian Federation and Switzerland joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

16. Also at its 27th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.15/Rev.1 (see para. 17, draft resolution II).

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

17. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 69/218 of 19 December 2014, 70/110 of 23 December 2015 and 71/227 of 21 December 2016 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000, and taking into consideration all other relevant resolutions,

Noting that the El Niño phenomenon has a recurring character and can lead to extensive natural hazards with the potential to seriously affect humankind,

Noting also that technological developments and international cooperation have enhanced the capabilities for the prediction of the El Niño phenomenon and thereby the potential for the preventive actions that may be taken to reduce its negative impacts,

Reaffirming the Sendai Declaration[1] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[2] adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[3] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[4] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Noting that further research on the impacts of climate change, including the effects of arctic changes on the El Niño phenomenon, can support more effective planning for resilience and recovery,

Noting also with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

[1] Resolution 69/283, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Reaffirming also the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito, from 17 to 20 October 2016,[5]

Reaffirming further its vision of cities and human settlements that adopt and implement disaster risk reduction and management, reduce vulnerability, build resilience and responsiveness to natural and human-made hazards and foster mitigation of and adaptation to climate change,

Noting with concern that the El Niño phenomenon has posed a serious challenge to the hard-fought development gains of developing countries, particularly in terms of diverting resources from national development plans and programmes,

Conscious of the importance of enhanced concerted efforts by the World Meteorological Organization with relevant national, regional and international monitoring centres to deliver, effectively and in a timely manner, more regionally focused climate services as well as training and capacity-building related to El Niño/La Niña, and noting the role of the International Research Centre on El Niño at Guayaquil, Ecuador, in this regard,

Recalling that the peak of the 2015/16 El Niño was comparable in strength to the 1982/83 and 1997/98 events and, therefore, one of the strongest on record, and affected more than 60 million people during 2015 and 2016, in particular in developing countries, with significant short- and long-term impacts on the health of individuals, the economy and food production locally, regionally and globally, particularly affecting people whose livelihood depends on agriculture, fisheries and livestock activities,

Noting with concern that, as a consequence of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon, heavy rains, floods and, conversely, cold waves and heatwaves, wildfires, coral bleaching and drought episodes adversely affected countries and peoples, in particular in Latin America, Eastern and Southern Africa and South-East Asia and the Pacific, including by increasing the spread of diseases and the number of people displaced, affecting food security and infrastructure and hampering the ability of those countries and peoples to achieve sustainable development,

Noting with appreciation that some countries were able to partly reduce the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon by designing and implementing government-led early action plans that included the establishment of resilient multipurpose dams and other infrastructure projects, reinforcing existing social and productive infrastructure, revitalizing health services to combat vector-borne diseases, and strengthening social support services, safety nets, appropriate and preventive agriculture practices, income-generating public works and welfare programmes,

Acknowledging the importance of humanitarian assistance provided to countries that were most affected by the adverse effects of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon, while stressing the need to transcend this approach in favour of a multidisciplinary

[5] Resolution 71/256, annex.

and articulated development-based response to strengthen national institutional capacities and effectively address these adverse consequences,

Noting that the World Meteorological Organization has predicted a 70 to 80 per cent chance of a weak El Niño/Southern Oscillation phenomenon prevailing during the winter of 2018/19 and a 55 to 60 per cent chance of its continuing into the spring of 2019 to be the most likely scenario,

Noting also the work of the Special Envoys on El Niño and Climate by the Secretary-General in calling attention to the severe short- and long-term impacts of the 2015/16 El Niño, which culminated in the submission of the report entitled "Preventing El Niño Southern Oscillation episodes from becoming disasters: a blueprint for action",

Noting with appreciation the inclusion of the discussions on the important contributions of science, technology and innovation to building resilience to the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of the El Niño phenomenon held during the multi-stakeholder forums on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals,

Noting that the sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction will be held in Geneva, from 13 to 17 May 2019, on the theme "Resilience dividend: towards sustainable and inclusive societies",

Noting also the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

Recommitting to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[6] which includes a section on an effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon;

2. *Urges* the effective implementation of the Sendai Declaration[1] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;[2]

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of developing multi-hazard strategies at the local, national, subregional, regional and international levels by 2020, in line with Sendai Framework, that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the El Niño phenomenon, while recognizing ongoing national initiatives by affected countries to strengthen their capacities;

4. *Recognizes* the continued efforts by the Governments of Ecuador and Spain, the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction to support the International Research Centre on El Niño, and encourages them and other members of the international community to continue to make such contributions for the advancement of the Centre;

5. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken so far to strengthen the International Research Centre on El Niño, through collaboration with international monitoring centres, including national oceanographic institutions, and encourages further efforts

[6] A/72/259 and A/73/268.

to enhance regional and international recognition of and support for the Centre and to develop tools for decision makers and government authorities aimed at reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon;

6. *Notes* the assistance provided to Governments by the International Research Centre on El Niño and by other Governments and institutions in the development of early warning systems that allow for the implementation of anticipatory risk reduction measures that contribute to the reduction and prevention of the potential human, economic and environmental impacts of the phenomenon;

7. *Recognizes* the contributions of the United Nations system, namely, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the World Food Programme and the Word Meteorological Organization, to guidance on and action planning for El Niño, as a phenomenon that causes impacts of a multisectoral nature, including on food security, livelihood, health and water and sanitation, and encourages strengthened collaboration also with other relevant institutions;

8. *Recognizes also* the technical and scientific support of the World Meteorological Organization in producing regionally coordinated monthly and seasonal forecasts, in particular its establishment of a consensus mechanism for the development of updates on El Niño/La Niña conditions, which receives contributions from several climate centres, and also recognizes various initiatives undertaken by different countries to strengthen national and regional capacities;

9. *Encourages* the World Meteorological Organization, in this regard, to continue to strengthen collaboration and the exchange of data and information with relevant institutions;

10. *Encourages* Governments to promote the full, equal and effective participation and leadership of women, as well as of persons with disabilities, in the design, management, resourcing and implementation of gender-responsive and disability-inclusive policies, plans and programmes on the preparation for and response to the El Niño phenomenon, and recognizes in this regard that women and girls are disproportionately exposed to risk, increased loss of livelihoods and even loss of life during and in the aftermath of disasters, and that disasters and the consequent disruption to physical, social, economic and environmental networks and support systems disproportionately affect persons with disabilities and their families;

11. *Stresses* that during neutral El Niño and La Niña years it is critical to prepare for, build resilience to and reduce the risks of the next event, including through integrated plans;

12. *Encourages* responses to the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon not only to address the immediate needs but also to support longer-term sustainable development and build the resilience of livelihoods especially in the agricultural sectors and rural areas;

13. *Calls upon* the international community to provide financial, technical and capacity-building support to countries affected by the El Niño phenomenon, prioritizing resources to developing countries;

14. *Encourages* the United Nations inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, the annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals and the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to consider further discussing recommendations on how to better

identify requirements and options for the adequate provision of science, technology and innovation elements to enable countries to address the impacts of the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon, as appropriate;

15. *Encourages* the annual Global Infrastructure Forum to identify and address, as appropriate, infrastructure and capacity gaps and needs to enhance preparedness and promote early actions in countries affected by the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon;

16. *Encourages* the sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction to include in its discussions ways to enhance preparedness, build resilience, promote early actions, reduce risks and address the impacts of the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon, as appropriate;

17. *Requests* the United Nations system, through existing coordination mechanisms and platforms, to take into consideration, where appropriate, the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon when designing risk reduction and development strategies, in particular in the context of the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-Informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development;

18. *Encourages* interested Member States, with the support of the United Nations development system, to develop integrated, coherent and comprehensive government-led strategies to mitigate the adverse impacts of the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon and to collaborate in support of affected countries;

19. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth and seventy-fifth sessions, under the sub-item entitled "Disaster risk reduction" of the item entitled "Sustainable development", a section on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to consider at its seventy-fifth session the topic "Effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon" under the sub-item entitled "Disaster risk reduction", unless otherwise agreed.

Draft resolution II
Disaster risk reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 72/218 of 20 December 2017 and all previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the Sendai Declaration[1] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[2]

Recalling further the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[3] Agenda 21,[4] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[5] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[6] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[7] and reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[8] in particular the decisions related to disaster risk reduction,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Reaffirming further the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[9] and recognizing the linkages between disaster risk reduction and sustainable urban development,

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[1] Resolution 69/283, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

[5] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[6] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[8] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[9] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Recognizing the need for a broader and a more people-centred preventive approach to disaster risk and that disaster risk reduction practices need to be multi-hazard and multisectoral, inclusive and accessible in order to be efficient and effective,

Reiterating the call in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction for the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries,

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of disasters and their devastating impact this year and in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life, displacement and long-term negative economic, social and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, and which hamper the achievement of their sustainable development, in particular that of developing countries,

Recognizing the importance of promoting policies and planning that build resilience and reduce displacement risk in the context of disasters, including through transboundary cooperation,

Recalling the convening of the International Conference on the Implementation of the Health Aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, held in Bangkok on 10 and 11 March 2016, which adopted the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework as a contribution to the Sendai Framework to build resilient health systems,

Recognizing climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk, and that the adverse effects of climate change, as contributors to environmental degradation and extreme weather events, may, in certain instances, among other factors, contribute to disaster-induced human mobility, and in this regard acknowledging the internationally agreed outcomes adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

Recognizing also that disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and which are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement,[10] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[11] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Looks forward to the Secretary-General's climate summit, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

Highlighting the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

Reaffirming the importance of strengthening international cooperation in the face of disasters, weather-related hazards, including those driven by natural climate cycles such as the El Niño Southern Oscillation, and the adverse effects of climate change to estimate and prevent major damage and ensure an adequate response, early action and attention to the affected populations in a timely manner in order to enhance

[10] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[11] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

resilience to their impacts, and recognizing in this regard the importance of developing risk-informed strategies, risk finance tools, including forecast-based financing approaches and disaster risk insurance and coordinated multi-hazard early warning systems, including timely risk communication at local, national and regional levels,

Recognizing that disaster-prone developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, warrant particular attention in view of their higher vulnerability and risk levels, which often greatly exceed their capacity to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters, and recognizing also that similar attention and appropriate assistance should also be extended to other disaster-prone countries with specific characteristics, such as archipelagic countries, as well as countries with extensive coastlines,

Recalling that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction applies to risks of small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent sudden and slow-onset disasters caused by natural or man-made hazards, as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

Recommitting to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/218;[12]

2. *Urges* the effective implementation of the Sendai Declaration[1] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;[2]

3. *Reiterates its call for* the prevention of new and the reduction of existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political, financial and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery and thus strengthen resilience;

4. *Underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, and emphasizes the need for action at all levels to enhance efforts to build resilience through, inter alia, the sustainable management of ecosystems, and to build resilience to reduce the impacts and costs of natural disasters;

5. *Encourages* countries, the relevant United Nations bodies, agencies, programmes and funds and other relevant institutions and stakeholders to take into consideration the important role of coordinated disaster risk governance across sectors for the achievement of sustainable development and, inter alia, the strengthening of disaster prevention as well as preparedness for effective response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

6. *Encourages* focused action within and across sectors by countries at the local, national, regional and global levels in the four priority areas of the Sendai Framework, namely, understanding disaster risk, strengthening disaster risk

[12] A/73/268.

governance to manage disaster risk, investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience and enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and in order to "build back better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

7. *Acknowledges* the work of the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system in disaster risk reduction and the updated United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development, requests the relevant United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes, and urges other relevant institutions and stakeholders, to continue to align their work with the Plan of Action, including through risk-informed strategic plans, common country assessments and United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, in order to enhance the coordination, coherence and efficiency of support to countries on disaster risk reduction, guided by the Senior Leadership Group on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience convened by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, according to the Sendai Framework;

8. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to work towards the achievement of the global targets adopted in the Sendai Framework;

9. *Recognizes* progress made in achieving target (e) of the Sendai Framework and that the development of risk-informed strategic plans, policies, programmes and investments and national and local disaster risk reduction strategies are essential for sustainable development;

10. *Also recognizes* in this regard, given the shorter time frame for achieving target (e) of the Sendai Framework by 2020, the scale of action needed for the development of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, and thus urges States to continue to prioritize and support the development of inclusive national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, with particular focus on local strategies and programmes, and to promote their alignment and integration with sustainable development and climate change adaptation strategies, including national adaptation plans, as appropriate, making use of practical guidance to support the achievement of target (e), and notes in this regard the relevant voluntary "Words into Action" guidelines;

11. *Urges* States to prioritize the establishment and strengthening of national disaster loss databases and to conduct disaster risk assessments to develop inclusive and multi-hazard risk assessments that consider climate change projections to support evidence-based disaster risk reduction strategies and guide risk-informed development investments by the private and public sectors;

12. *Reaffirms* the need for the enhancement of the implementation capacity and capability of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, including the mobilization of support through international cooperation, for the provision of means of implementation to augment domestic efforts in accordance with their national priorities;

13. *Recognizes* that effective and meaningful global and regional partnerships and the further strengthening of international cooperation, including the fulfilment of respective commitments of official development assistance by developed countries, are essential for effective disaster risk management;

14. *Also recognizes* that financing for disaster risk reduction requires greater attention, and invites the United Nations system and its entities, within the scope of their respective mandates, in partnership with international financial institutions,

regional development banks and other relevant institutions and stakeholders, to explore the development of tailored financing mechanisms for disaster risk reduction;

15. *Encourages* the incorporation of disaster risk reduction measures, as appropriate, into multilateral and bilateral development assistance programmes and infrastructure financing, within and across all sectors related to sustainable development, including poverty reduction, agriculture, natural resource management, the environment, urban development and adaptation to climate change;

16. *Encourages* States to allocate domestic resources to disaster risk reduction, to include disaster risk reduction in budgeting and financial planning across all relevant sectors, and to ensure that national financing frameworks and infrastructure plans are risk-informed, according to national plans and policies;

17. *Recognizes* the important contribution of healthy ecosystems to reducing disaster risk and building community resilience, and encourages all States, United Nations bodies and other relevant actors to promote ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction approaches at all levels;

18. *Also recognizes* that economic losses are rising as a result of the increasing number and value of assets exposed to hazards, and encourages countries to conduct a disaster risk assessment of existing critical infrastructure, to support the publication of disaster risk, to make disaster risk assessments a prerequisite for infrastructure and housing investments and to strengthen regulatory frameworks for land-use planning and building codes, as appropriate, towards the achievement of target (d) of the Sendai Framework, and in this regard encourages countries to integrate disaster risk reduction considerations into social, economic and environmental investments;

19. *Acknowledges* that water is essential to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,[13] and that water-related disasters and multidimensional hazards threaten lives, livelihoods, agriculture and basic service infrastructure and cause substantial socioeconomic damage and losses, and that sustainable, integrated disaster risk-informed water resource management is necessary for successful disaster preparedness, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, and in this regard invites all countries to integrate land and water management, including for floods and droughts, into their national and subnational planning and management processes;

20. *Emphasizes* that disaster prevention, preparedness, early actions and resilience-building in most cases are significantly more cost-effective than emergency response, as well as the importance of additional efforts to increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning mechanisms of States, in order to ensure that early warning leads to early action, and encourages all relevant stakeholders to support these efforts;

21. *Urges* States, while implementing the Sendai Framework, to continue working on data collection and the development of baselines on current losses, including livelihood and other losses of affected populations, and working towards the collection of disaggregated information and historical disaster losses going back, at least, to 2005, if feasible;

22. *Encourages* States to give appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[13] where it is reflected across several Goals and targets, including in their voluntary national reviews, inter alia, through the engagement of national Sendai Framework focal points early in the national review process, as appropriate, and stresses the importance of considering disaster risk reduction in the deliberations and outcomes of the high-level political forum on sustainable development to be held in 2019 and

[13] See resolution 70/1.

of taking disaster risk reduction into account in the implementation and review of the Sustainable Development Goals, including during the high-level political forum, over the next cycle;

23. *Reiterates* its strong encouragement of and the need for effective coordination and coherence, as applicable, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[14] the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[10] and the Sendai Framework, as well as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[11] the Convention on Biological Diversity,[15] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[16] and the New Urban Agenda,[9] while respecting the relevant mandates, in order to build synergies and resilience, translate integrated global policy frameworks into integrated multisectoral programmes at national and local levels and reduce disaster risk across sectors, and addressing the global challenge of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty;

24. *Urges* that due consideration continue to be given to the review of the global progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework as part of the integrated and coordinated follow-up processes to United Nations conferences and summits, aligned with the Economic and Social Council, the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the quadrennial comprehensive policy review cycles, as appropriate, taking into account the contributions of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction and the Sendai Framework monitor;

25. *Recognizes* that disaster risk reduction requires a multi-hazard approach and inclusive risk-informed decision-making based on the open exchange and dissemination of disaggregated data, including by sex, age and disability, as well as on easily accessible, up-to-date, comprehensible, science-based, non-sensitive risk information, for a wide range of users and decision makers, complemented by traditional knowledge, and in this regard encourages States to commence or, as appropriate, further enhance the collection of data on disaster loss and other relevant disaster risk reduction targets, disaggregated by sex, age and disability, and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, in reporting on the Sendai Framework;

26. *Welcomes* the launch of the Sendai Framework monitor, encourages States to use the online monitor to report on progress against the Sendai Framework global targets and the Sustainable Development Goals related to disaster risk to provide, inter alia, a comprehensive overview of progress to inform the deliberations and outcomes of the high-level political forum on sustainable development held in 2019 and the sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Geneva from 13 to 17 May 2019, and notes the ongoing work towards coherence between national climate change adaptation and national disaster risk reduction strategies, as well as the Sendai Framework target indicators and national adaptation goals and indicators;

27. *Also welcomes* the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council of the Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters;

28. *Reaffirms* that the establishment of common indicators and shared data sets to measure the Sendai Framework global targets and the disaster risk reduction

[14] Resolution 69/313, annex.
[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.
[16] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

targets of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 11 and 13 is an important contribution to ensure coherence, feasibility and consistency in implementation, the collection of data and reporting, and in this regard recognizes the importance of prioritizing capacity-building support to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges;

29. *Recognizes* the extent to which developing countries are able to effectively enhance and implement national disaster risk reduction policies and measures in the context of their respective circumstances and capabilities can be further enhanced through the provision of sustainable international cooperation;

30. *Also recognizes* the importance of giving priority to the development of local and national disaster risk reduction capacity-building, policies, strategies and plans with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, in accordance with national practices and legislation;

31. *Further recognizes* that, while each State has the primary responsibility for preventing and reducing disaster risk, it is a shared responsibility between Governments and relevant stakeholders, and recognizes that non-State and other relevant stakeholders, including major groups, parliaments, civil society, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, non-governmental organizations, national platforms for disaster risk reduction, focal points for the Sendai Framework, local government representatives, scientific institutions and the private sector, as well as organizations and relevant agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and intergovernmental organizations, play an important role as enablers in providing support to States, in accordance with national policies, laws and regulations, in the implementation of the Sendai Framework at the local, national, regional and global levels, and that greater efforts are needed to mobilize multi-stakeholder partnerships for disaster risk reduction, according to national plans and policies;

32. *Welcomes* the annual observance of the International Day for Disaster Reduction on 13 October and World Tsunami Awareness Day on 5 November, encourages all States, United Nations bodies and other relevant actors to observe the days to further raise public awareness on disaster risk reduction, and decides to rename the International Day for Disaster Reduction as the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction;

33. *Encourages* Governments to promote the full, equal and effective participation and leadership of women, as well as of persons with disabilities, in the design, management, resourcing and implementation of gender-responsive and disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes, and recognizes in this regard that women and girls are disproportionately exposed to risk, increased loss of livelihoods and even loss of life during and in the aftermath of disasters, and that disasters and the consequent disruption to physical, social, economic and environmental networks and support systems disproportionately affect persons with disabilities and their families;

34. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective and the perspectives of persons with disabilities in disaster risk management so as to strengthen the resilience of communities and reduce social vulnerabilities to disasters, and in this regard recognizes the need for the inclusive participation and contribution of women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as the role of youth, volunteers, migrants, local communities, academia, scientific and research entities and networks, business, professional associations, private sector financing institutions and the media, in all

forums and processes related to disaster risk reduction, in accordance with the Sendai Framework;

35. *Recognizes* that biological hazards require strengthened coordination between disaster and health risk management systems in the areas of risk assessment, surveillance and early warning, and that resilient health infrastructures and strengthened health systems capable of implementing the International Health Regulations (2005),[17] as well as increasing the overall capacity of health systems, reduce overall disaster risk and build disaster resilience;

36. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Switzerland for hosting the upcoming sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva from 13 to 17 May 2019, jointly organized with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, encourages participation across all sectors and ministries at the highest level possible, reaffirms the importance of the Global Platform as a forum to assess and discuss progress on the Sendai Framework and advance coherence between disaster risk reduction, sustainable development and climate change mitigation and adaptation, including financing, and recognizes the outcomes of the Global Platform as a contribution to the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

37. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of Armenia, Colombia, Fiji, Italy, Mongolia and Tunisia as the 2018 hosts of the regional platforms for disaster risk reduction, jointly organized with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, recognizes the platforms as important mechanisms for cooperation to implement the Sendai Framework and to assess and discuss progress, and also recognizes their outcomes as contributions to the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

38. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation for disaster risk reduction includes a variety of sources and is a critical element in supporting the efforts of developing countries to reduce disaster risk, and encourages States to strengthen international and regional information exchange and sharing, including through North-South cooperation complemented by South-South and triangular cooperation, establishing and networking risk management centres, promoting critical science and technology research cooperation on disaster reduction and improving international coordination mechanisms to respond to large-scale natural disasters;

39. *Acknowledges* the importance of the work of the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions in disaster risk reduction, the substantial increase in demands on the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the need for timely, stable, adequate and predictable resources necessary for supporting the implementation of the Sendai Framework, and in this regard encourages Member States to consider providing or augmenting voluntary contributions to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction;

40. *Recognizes* the continued importance of voluntary funding, and urges existing and new donors to provide sufficient funding and, where possible, to augment financial contributions to the United Nations trust fund for disaster reduction to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework, including through unearmarked and, where possible, multi-annual contributions;

41. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to collaborate with the private sector to enhance the resilience of businesses, as well as the societies within which they operate, by integrating disaster risk into their management practices and to facilitate

[17] World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex.

private investments in disaster risk reduction and to promote risk-informed private investments;

42. *Reaffirms* that investing in national and local skills, systems and knowledge to build resilience and preparedness will save lives, reduce risk of displacement in the context of disasters, cut costs and preserve development gains, and in this regard encourages exploring innovative ways, such as forecast-based financing and disaster risk insurance mechanisms, to increase the availability of resources for Member States before a disaster is credibly expected to occur;

43. *Stresses* the importance of promoting the incorporation of disaster risk knowledge, including disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation, in formal and non-formal education, as well as in civic education at all levels, as well as in professional education and training;

44. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Disaster risk reduction", unless otherwise agreed.

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Sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 20 (see A/73/538, para. 2). Action on sub-item (d) was taken at the 23rd and 26th meetings, on 8 and 30 November 2018. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.28 and A/C.2/73/L.43

2. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind" (A/C.2/73/L.28).

3. At its 26th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind" (A/C.2/73/L.43), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Mehdi Remaoun (Algeria), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.28.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.43 had no programme budget implications.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 12 parts, under the symbols A/73/538, A/73/538/Add.1, A/73/538/Add.2, A/73/538/Add.3, A/73/538/Add.4, A/73/538/Add.5, A/73/538/Add.6, A/73/538/Add.7, A/73/538/Add.8, A/73/538/Add.9, A/73/538/Add.10 and A/73/538/Add.11.

[1] A/C.2/73/SR.23 and A/C.2/73/SR.26.

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5. Also at the same meeting, the facilitator of the draft resolution (Mexico) made a statement and orally revised draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.43 by deleting operative paragraph 19.[2]

6. Also at its 26th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.43, as orally revised (see para. 9).

7. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union, and the United States of America.

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.43, draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.28 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

[2] See A/C.2/73/SR.26.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988, 54/222 of 22 December 1999, 62/86 of 10 December 2007, 63/32 of 26 November 2008, 64/73 of 7 December 2009, 65/159 of 20 December 2010, 66/200 of 22 December 2011, 67/210 of 21 December 2012, 68/212 of 20 December 2013, 69/220 of 19 December 2014, 70/205 of 22 December 2015, 71/228 of 21 December 2016 and 72/219 of 20 December 2017 and other resolutions and decisions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of humankind,

Recalling also the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[1] and the Paris Agreement adopted under the Convention,[2] acknowledging that they are the primary international, intergovernmental forums for negotiating the global response to climate change, expressing determination to address decisively the threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation, recognizing that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible international cooperation aimed at accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions and addressing adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change, and noting with concern the significant gap between the aggregate effect of parties' mitigation pledges, in particular their nationally determined contributions, as appropriate, and aggregate emission pathways,

Recalling further the Paris Agreement, which, pursuant to article 2, paragraph 2, thereof, will be implemented to reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances,

Acknowledging that action on adaptation to climate change is an urgent priority and a global challenge faced by all countries, in particular developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, recognizing that the current need for adaptation is significant and that greater levels of mitigation can reduce the need for additional adaptation efforts, and bearing in mind that the provision of scaled-up financial resources should aim to achieve a balance between adaptation and mitigation,

Welcoming the convening of the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the third part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, in Katowice, Poland, from 2 to 14 December 2018,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[2] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[5] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[6] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[7] the outcomes of the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and of the sessions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011,[8] the Political Declaration of the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016,[9] the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, adopted at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014,[10] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[11] the Mauritius Declaration[12] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[13] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[14] the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[15] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[16] and the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[17]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest

[3] Resolution 55/2.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] Resolution 60/1.

[7] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[8] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[9] Resolution 70/294, annex.

[10] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[11] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[12] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[13] Ibid., annex II.

[14] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[15] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[16] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[17] Resolution 71/256, annex.

global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Noting with concern the findings contained in the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty,

Taking note of the Green Climate Fund and its initial resource mobilization process, making it the largest dedicated climate fund, and its approval of 4.6 billion United States dollars in funding to support the implementation of 93 climate change adaptation and mitigation projects and programmes in 96 developing countries, reiterating the objectives and guiding principles of the Fund, including a gender-sensitive approach in its process and operations, stressing its goal of ensuring efficient access to its resources through simplified approval procedures and enhancing readiness support, which will help to deliver outcomes in developing countries so as to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help them adapt to the impacts of climate change, recognizing that the Board of the Fund decided to launch the process for the first formal replenishment, and emphasizing the importance of having a timely, well-managed and successful process so that the Fund continues to be one of the main channels to enable the flow of financial resources to developing countries under the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

Recalling the United Nations strategic plan for forests, 2017–2030, [18] and acknowledging that all types of forests contribute substantially to climate change mitigation and adaptation,

Noting that forests are addressed under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and noting also article 5 of the Paris Agreement,

Noting the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation at all levels among the parties to and secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, [19] and the Convention on Biological Diversity, [20] as appropriate, while respecting their individual mandates,

Noting also the contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly to addressing the challenge of, inter alia, climate change, within its mandate and in collaboration with other relevant organizations and stakeholders,

[18] See resolution 71/285.

[19] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[20] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

Recalling its resolution 71/312 of 6 July 2017, entitled "Our ocean, our future: call for action",

Recognizing that, in undertaking its work, the United Nations should promote the protection of the global climate for the well-being of present and future generations of humankind,

Welcoming the entry into force on 1 January 2019 of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer,[21] welcoming also its ratification by 59 countries and one regional economic integration organization, while encouraging further ratifications as soon as possible, and welcoming further the Thirtieth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, held from 5 to 9 November 2018 in Quito,

Noting the contribution of the International Civil Aviation Organization to global efforts to combat climate change, and noting also the contribution of the International Maritime Organization in this regard,

1. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, expresses profound alarm that the emissions of greenhouse gases continue to rise globally, remains deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and are already experiencing an increase in such impacts, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, land degradation, sea level rise, coastal erosion, ocean acidification and the retreat of mountain glaciers, further threatening food security, water availability and livelihoods, and efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions and achieve sustainable development, recognizes the substantial risks posed by climate change to health, and emphasizes in this regard that mitigation of and adaptation to climate change represent an immediate and urgent global priority;

2. *Welcomes* the first two sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change after the adoption of the Paris Agreement,[2] including the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties, presided over by the Government of Fiji, in Bonn, Germany, from 6 to 17 November 2017, and the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, hosted by the Government of Morocco in Marrakech, from 7 to 18 November 2016;

3. *Also welcomes* the Paris Agreement and its early entry into force, on 4 November 2016, encourages all parties to the Agreement to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible, and highlights the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[22] and the Paris Agreement;

4. *Recalls* that the Paris Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the Convention, including its objective, aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change, increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner

[21] UNEP/OzL.Pro.28/12, annex I.

[22] Resolution 70/1.

that does not threaten food production, and making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development;

5. *Welcomes* the nationally determined contributions submitted to date, and recalls that the regular updating of such contributions will reflect the highest possible level of ambition, in the light of different national circumstances, and provide the information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding, in accordance with the relevant decisions;

6. *Notes with concern* that the nationally determined contributions presented thus far by the parties to the Paris Agreement are not sufficient to achieve the long-term temperature goal in article 2, paragraph 1(a), of the Agreement;

7. *Urges* the completion of the Paris Agreement work programme at the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and recognizes the importance of the facilitative dialogue of 2018, known as the Talanoa Dialogue, at the twenty-fourth session as an opportunity to take stock of the collective efforts of parties in relation to progress towards the long-term goal referred to in article 2, paragraph 1, of the Agreement and to inform the preparation of nationally determined contributions;

8. *Emphasizes* the need for collective efforts to promote sustainable development in its three dimensions in an innovative, coordinated, environmentally sound, open and shared manner;

9. *Underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, and emphasizes the need for action at all levels to enhance efforts to build resilience through, inter alia, the sustainable management of ecosystems, and to build resilience to reduce the impacts and costs of natural disasters;

10. *Recognizes* that enhanced access to international climate finance is important to support mitigation and adaptation efforts in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and also recognizes the ongoing efforts in this regard;

11. *Acknowledges* the work undertaken under the auspices of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action,[23] and encourages non-party stakeholders to scale up their efforts to address and respond to climate change;

12. *Looks forward* to the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change;

13. *Also looks forward* to the convening by the President of the General Assembly of the high-level meeting during the seventy-third session of the General Assembly on the issue of the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of humankind in the context of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

14. *Reiterates* the resolve of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its decision 1/CP.19, to accelerate the full implementation of the decisions constituting the agreed outcome pursuant to its decision 1/CP.13[25] and to enhance ambition in the pre-2020 period in order to ensure the highest possible mitigation efforts under the Convention by all parties;

15. *Welcomes* the further acceptance or ratification of the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol[26] by 117 countries, up from 95 countries one year ago, expressed

[23] See FCCC/CP/2016/10/Add.1.
[24] See FCCC/CP/2013/10/Add.1.
[25] See FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1.
[26] See FCCC/KP/CMP/2012/13/Add.1.

concern that the Doha Amendment has not yet entered into force, and welcomes the efforts of those parties that are already implementing the Doha amendment prior to its entry into force;

16. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[27]

17. *Recognizes* the importance for all countries of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including extreme weather events and slow onset events, and the role of sustainable development in reducing the risk of loss and damage, and in that regard takes note of the establishment of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, relevant consecutive decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention as well as article 8 of the Paris Agreement;

18. *Notes with appreciation* the hosting by the Government of Poland of the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the third part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, in Katowice, Poland, from 2 to 14 December 2018;

19. *Urges* Member States, taking into account that women and girls are often disproportionately affected by climate change owing to gender inequalities and the dependence of many women on natural resources for their livelihoods, to promote the integration of a gender perspective into environmental and climate change policies and to strengthen mechanisms and provide adequate resources towards achieving the full and equal participation of women in decision-making at all levels on environmental issues, and stresses the need to address the challenges posed by climate change that affect women and girls in particular, including through the implementation of the first gender action plan adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its twenty-third session, with a view to advancing towards the goal of mainstreaming a gender perspective into climate action;

20. *Recalls* the action plan for integrating sustainable development practices into Secretariat-wide operations and facilities management submitted by the Secretary-General[28] and endorsed in resolution 72/219, and requests the Secretary-General to report on its implementation and improvements achieved to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

21. *Notes* the ongoing work and potential of the local communities and indigenous peoples platform of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, established for the exchange of experiences and sharing of best practices on mitigation and adaptation in a holistic and integrated manner, and recalls decision 2/CP.23 of the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the platform's purpose and functions;

22. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and decides to include, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, unless otherwise agreed.

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[27] A/73/255, sect. I.

[28] A/72/82.

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Sustainable development: implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 20 (see A/73/538, para. 2). Action on sub-item (e) was taken at the 23rd and 25th meetings, on 8 and 28 November 2018. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.38 and A/C.2/73/L.44

2. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa" (A/C.2/73/L.38).

3. At its 25th meeting, on 28 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa" (A/C.2/73/L.44), submitted by the Vice-Chair

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 12 parts, under the symbols A/73/538, A/73/538/Add.1, A/73/538/Add.2, A/73/538/Add.3, A/73/538/Add.4, A/73/538/Add.5, A/73/538/Add.6, A/73/538/Add.7, A/73/538/Add.8, A/73/538/Add.9, A/73/538/Add.10 and A/73/538/Add.11.

[1] A/C.2/73/SR.23 and A/C.2/73/SR.25.

of the Committee, Mehdi Remaoun (Algeria), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.38.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.44 had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at its 25th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.44 (see para. 8).

6. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.44, draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.38 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 72/220 of 20 December 2017, as well as other resolutions relating to the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[1]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, and its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Recalling that, in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the international community committed to combating desertification, restoring degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and striving to achieve a land degradation-neutral world by 2030,

Acknowledging that action to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and achieve a land degradation-neutral world can deliver multiple benefits and that land degradation neutrality has the potential to act as an accelerator for achieving Sustainable Development Goals and as a catalyst for attracting sustainable development financing and climate finance to implement the Convention,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Bearing in mind its resolution 62/195 of 19 December 2007, in which it declared the decade 2010–2020 as the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification, and its resolution 64/201 of 21 December 2009, in which it designated the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

Africa, as the focal point of the Decade, and invited States parties to the Convention, observers and other relevant stakeholders to organize activities to observe the Decade,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement,[2] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[3] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Highlighting the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, entitled "Global Warming of 1.5°C",

Looking forward to the Climate Summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

Welcoming the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,[4] and acknowledging that all types of forests provide essential ecosystem services, such as timber, food, fuel, fodder, non-wood products and shelter, as well as soil and water conservation and clean air, that the sustainable management of forests and trees outside forests is vital to the integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and that all forests prevent land degradation and desertification and reduce the risk of floods, landslides and avalanches, droughts, sand and dust storms and other disasters,

Taking note of the *Assessment Report on Land Degradation and Restoration*[5] of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, which reaffirms the global dimension of land degradation and reconfirms the economic sense of urgent and concerted action and investment in avoiding land degradation and the restoration of degraded lands,

Noting that combating desertification, land degradation and drought, including through sustainable land management, can contribute to easing forced migration flows influenced by a number of factors, including economic, social, security and environmental concerns, which can, in turn, reduce current and potential fighting over resources in degraded areas,

Encouraging countries to give due consideration to the dissemination, promotion and implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,[6]

Recognizing that drought resilience is an important element in the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, as well as of target 15.3 on land degradation neutrality,[7]

Highlighting the important role of civil society in the implementation of the Convention and its 2018–2030 Strategic Framework,[8]

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[2] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[4] See resolution 71/285.

[5] Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (Bonn, Germany, 2018).

[6] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

[7] See resolution 70/1.

[8] ICCD/COP(13)/21/Add.1, decision 7/COP.13, annex.

Recognizing that sand and dust storms can be exacerbated by desertification, land degradation and drought and that sustainable land management in the context of land degradation neutrality, including land management and sustainable water use, can contribute to effective responses to sand and dust storms,

Welcoming the fact that 119 States have subscribed to the voluntary land degradation neutrality target-setting programme under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

Recognizing the value of knowledge, education, science and new technology to sustainable development and good land management, including making use of, inter alia, the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, emphasizing the importance of science-based decision-making and that science and technology to combat desertification, land degradation and drought should therefore be further promoted, acknowledging the work of the Science-Policy Interface of the Convention, and welcoming the organization of the technology fair at the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

Expressing deep concern about the continuous trend of land degradation, as reflected in the findings of the *Sustainable Development Goals Report 2018*,[9]

Reaffirming the importance of government leadership, multi-stakeholder partnerships and increasing private engagement for the sustainable management, restoration and rehabilitation of ecosystems, biodiversity and land,

Expressing its appreciation to the Government of China for hosting the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held in Ordos, China, from 6 to 16 September 2017,

Noting with appreciation the global observance event to mark the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought, held in Quito on 17 June 2018 on the theme "Land has true value — Invest in it",

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 72/220 on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[10]

2. *Affirms* that achieving land degradation neutrality would serve as an accelerator and integrator for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and as a catalyst for attracting sustainable development financing and climate finance to implement the Convention, and respond to the overall objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[6]

3. *Encourages* the organizations of the United Nations system, when designing and implementing their programmes and projects, to take into account the role of land degradation neutrality as a potential accelerator of Sustainable Development Goals;

4. *Invites* Member States to support efforts to implement the strategic objective of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those

[9] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.18.I.6.
[10] A/73/255, sect. II.

Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[1] on drought;

5. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[11] as well as the launch of the Land Degradation Neutrality Fund, a global impact investment vehicle for projects addressing land degradation, and takes note with appreciation of the launch of the first edition of *Global Land Outlook*,[12] which provides, among other things, an assessment of the state of land globally as well as solutions for the sustainable management of land resources to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the adoption of the Ordos Declaration at the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention urging countries to step up efforts on all fronts to tackle desertification, land degradation and drought, which are seen as major environmental, economic and social challenges for global sustainable development;[13]

7. *Recognizes* the importance of applying new and innovative technologies, enabling policies and approaches, as well as sharing best practices, in combating desertification, land degradation and drought, and requests the Secretary-General to identify those technologies, enabling policies and best practices in his report on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Underlines* the importance of comprehensive reporting, follow-up and review at the global, national and regional levels, as appropriate, in order to track progress in the implementation of the Convention, to ensure that its overall objectives to reverse desertification and mitigate the effects of drought to achieve sustainable development in the affected areas are duly attained;

9. *Takes note*, as appropriate, of the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, at its thirteenth session, to promote the positive role that measures taken to implement the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, can play in addressing desertification, land degradation and drought as one of the drivers that can cause migration, and invites all stakeholders to take note of this when addressing drivers of migration within the ongoing processes;

10. *Underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, and emphasizes the need for national and international action to enhance efforts to build resilience;

11. *Encourages* the public and private sectors to continue to invest in developing, adapting and scaling up the application of technologies, enabling policies, methods and tools to combat desertification, land degradation and drought in different regions, and to boost knowledge exchange, including of traditional knowledge with the consent of the knowledge holders, capacity-building and sharing of technologies on mutually agreed terms;

12. *Encourages* developed countries party to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, to actively support the efforts of developing countries party to the Convention in promoting sustainable land management practices and in seeking to achieve a land degradation-neutral world by providing

[11] ICCD/COP(13)/21/Add.1.

[12] Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (Bonn, Germany, 2017).

[13] Ibid., decision 27/COP.13, annex.

substantial financial resources, facilitated access to appropriate technology and other forms of support, including through capacity-building measures;

13. *Welcomes* the adoption of the 2018–2030 Strategic Framework of the Convention, including a new strategic objective on drought, and strongly encourages the parties to the Convention to apply and align with the Strategic Framework in their national policies, programmes, plans and processes relating to desertification, land degradation and drought, including in their national action programmes, as appropriate, and to implement the Strategic Framework, taking into account the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;[14]

14. *Recognizes* that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls remains a crucial contribution to the effective implementation of the Convention, including its 2018–2030 Strategic Framework, and to the achievement of the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, welcomes the adoption of the Gender Action Plan by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its thirteenth session, and calls upon parties to the Convention and partners to pursue the equal participation of women and men in planning, decision-making and implementation at all levels and to further promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in desertification, land degradation and drought-related policies and activities as a means to strengthen the effective and efficient implementation of action on the ground;

15. *Invites* multilateral and bilateral partners to support parties to the Convention in the implementation of the 2018–2030 Strategic Framework of the Convention;

16. *Encourages* parties to the Convention to continue to promote the prevention of desertification, land degradation and drought with an integrated landscape approach, including the rehabilitation and restoration of degraded land and sustainable land management;

17. *Calls upon* parties to the Convention to enhance and support the preparation of drought preparedness policies on, inter alia, early warning systems, vulnerability and risk assessment, as well as drought risk mitigation measures;

18. *Welcomes* target 15.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals, to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world,[6] and takes note with appreciation of the voluntary land degradation neutrality target setting programme under the Convention and the work of the secretariat of the Convention and partners to assist States in carrying out voluntary target setting activities, and in this respect invites States that have not yet subscribed to the programme to do so;

19. *Notes with appreciation* the financial contributions that have been made by States and other donors towards the Land Degradation Neutrality Fund, and invites States and other donors to make further contributions;

20. *Invites* more investment aimed at the operationalization of the voluntary land degradation neutrality target setting programme and the Land Degradation Neutrality Fund as an innovative funding scheme to finance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including for the achievement of a land degradation-neutral world;

[14] Resolution 69/313, annex.

21. *Recognizes* the benefits gained from cooperation through the sharing of climate and weather information, forecasting and early warning systems related to desertification, land degradation and drought, while also taking account of dust and sand storms, at the global, regional and subregional levels, and in this regard likewise recognizes the need for further cooperation between parties to the Convention and relevant organizations in the sharing of related information, forecasting and early warning systems;

22. *Encourages* the United Nations system to harness opportunities for leveraging synergies among the Convention on Biological Diversity,[15] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[3] and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this respect welcomes the ongoing efforts to strengthen synergies among the secretariats of the aforementioned conventions;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa", unless otherwise agreed.

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[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.